

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013163

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C07D215/227 C07D241/44 C07D401/06 C07D403/06 C07D405/06
 C07D405/14 C07D407/06 C07D407/12 A61K31/4704 A61K31/498
 A61P1/04 A61P13/12 A61P19/02 A61P21/00 A61P25/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 371 564 A (JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA NV) 6 June 1990 (1990-06-06) cited in the application page 3, formula (I) page 32, line 2 page 32, line 39 - line 40 pages 79-87, Table 9-c claim 11	1, 2, 7-9, 15
A	WO 02/36599 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC ; PELLICCIARI ROBERTO (IT); MORONI FLAVIO (IT)) 10 May 2002 (2002-05-10) page 1, line 6 page 3, formula I page 8, line 31 - page 10, line 15	1-16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 April 2005

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20/04/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/013163

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4, 6-8 (part), 9, 11 (part), 12 (part), 13, 15 (part)

Compounds of Formula (I) , their medical use and methods for their preparation.

2. claims: 5, 6-8 (part), 10, 11 (part), 12 (part), 14, 15 (part),
16

Compounds of Formula (VII-a), their medical use and methods for their preparation.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013163

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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6-ALKENYL AND 6-PHENYLALKYL SUBSTITUTED 2-QUINOLINONES AND 2-QUINOXALINONES AS POLY(ADP-RIBOSE) POLYMERASE INHIBITORS

5 Field of the invention

The present invention relates to inhibitors of PARP and provides compounds and compositions containing the disclosed compounds. Moreover, the present invention provides methods of using the disclosed PARP inhibitors for instance as a medicine.

10 Background of the invention

The nuclear enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) is a member of the PARP enzyme family consisting of PARP-1 and several recently identified novel poly(ADP-ribosylating) enzymes. PARP is also referred to as poly(adenosine 5'-diphospho-ribose) polymerase or PARS (poly(ADP-ribose) synthetase).

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PARP-1 is a major nuclear protein of 116 kDa consisting of three domains: the N-terminal DNA binding domain containing two zinc fingers, the automodification domain and the C-terminal catalytic domain. It is present in almost all eukaryotes. The enzyme synthesizes poly(ADP-ribose), a branched polymer that can consist of over 200 ADP-ribose units. The protein acceptors of poly(ADP-ribose) are directly or indirectly involved in maintaining DNA integrity. They include histones, topoisomerases, DNA and RNA polymerases, DNA ligases, and Ca^{2+} - and Mg^{2+} -dependent endonucleases. PARP protein is expressed at a high level in many tissues, most notably in the immune system, heart, brain and germ-line cells. Under normal physiological conditions, there is minimal PARP activity. However, DNA damage causes an immediate activation of PARP by up to 500-fold.

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Among the many functions attributed to PARP, and especially PARP-1, is its major role in facilitating DNA repair by ADP-ribosylation and therefore co-ordinating a number of DNA repair proteins. As a result of PARP activation, NAD^+ levels significantly decline. Extensive PARP activation leads to severe depletion of NAD^+ in cells suffering from massive DNA damage. The short half-life of poly(ADP-ribose) results in a rapid turnover rate. Once poly(ADP-ribose) is formed, it is quickly degraded by the constitutively active poly(ADP-ribose) glycohydrolase (PARG), together with phosphodiesterase and (ADP-ribose) protein lyase. PARP and PARG form a cycle that converts a large amount of NAD^+ to ADP-ribose. In less than an hour, over-stimulation of PARP can cause a drop of NAD^+ and ATP to less than 20% of the normal level. Such a scenario is especially detrimental during ischaemia when

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deprivation of oxygen has already drastically compromised cellular energy output. Subsequent free radical production during reperfusion is assumed to be a major cause of tissue damage. Part of the ATP drop, which is typical in many organs during ischaemia and reperfusion, could be linked to NAD⁺ depletion due to poly(ADP-ribose) turnover. Thus, PARP or PARG inhibition is expected to preserve the cellular energy level thereby potentiating the survival of ischaemic tissues after insult.

Poly(ADP-ribose) synthesis is also involved in the induced expression of a number of genes essential for inflammatory response. PARP inhibitors suppress production of inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) in macrophages, P-type selectin and intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM- 1) in endothelial cells. Such activity underlies the strong anti-inflammation effects exhibited by PARP inhibitors. PARP inhibition is able to reduce necrosis by preventing translocation and infiltration of neutrophils to the injured tissues.

PARP is activated by damaged DNA fragments and, once activated, catalyzes the attachment of up to 100 ADP-ribose units to a variety of nuclear proteins, including histones and PARP itself. During major cellular stresses the extensive activation of PARP can rapidly lead to cell damage or death through depletion of energy stores. As four molecules of ATP are consumed for every molecule of NAD⁺ regenerated, NAD⁺ is depleted by massive PARP activation, in the efforts to re-synthesize NAD⁺, ATP may also become depleted.

It has been reported that PARP activation plays a key role in both NMDA- and NO-induced neurotoxicity. This has been demonstrated in cortical cultures and in hippocampal slices wherein prevention of toxicity is directly correlated to PARP inhibition potency. The potential role of PARP inhibitors in treating neurodegenerative diseases and head trauma has thus been recognized even if the exact mechanism of action has not yet been elucidated.

Similarly, it has been demonstrated that single injections of PARP inhibitors have reduced the infarct size caused by ischemia and reperfusion of the heart or skeletal muscle in rabbits. In these studies, a single injection of 3-amino-benzamide (10 mg/kg), either one minute before occlusion or one minute before reperfusion, caused similar reductions in infarct size in the heart (32-42%) while 1,5- dihydroxyisoquinoline (1 mg/kg), another PARP inhibitor, reduced infarct size by a comparable degree (38-48%) These results make it reasonable to assume that PARP inhibitors could salvage previously ischaemic heart or reperfusion injury of skeletal muscle tissue.

PARP activation can also be used as a measure of damage following neurotoxic insults resulting from exposure to any of the following inducers like glutamate (via NMDA receptor stimulation), reactive oxygen intermediates, amyloid β -protein, N-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP) or its active metabolite N-methyl-4-phenylpyridine (MPP⁺), which participate in pathological conditions such as stroke, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. Other studies have continued to explore the role of PARP activation in cerebellar granule cells in vitro and in MPTP neurotoxicity. Excessive neural exposure to glutamate, which serves as the predominate central nervous system neurotransmitter and acts upon the N-methyl D-aspartate (NMDA) receptors and other subtype receptors, most often occurs as a result of stroke or other neurodegenerative processes. Oxygen deprived neurons release glutamate in great quantities during ischaemic brain insult such as during a stroke or heart attack. This excess release of glutamate in turn causes over-stimulation (excitotoxicity) of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA), AMPA, Kainate and MGR receptors, which open ion channels and permit uncontrolled ion flow (e.g., Ca²⁺ and Na⁺ into the cells and K⁺ out of the cells) leading to overstimulation of the neurons. The over-stimulated neurons secrete more glutamate, creating a feedback loop or domino effect which ultimately results in cell damage or death via the production of proteases, lipases and free radicals. Excessive activation of glutamate receptors has been implicated in various neurological diseases and conditions including epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Huntington's disease, schizophrenia, chronic pain, ischemia and neuronal loss following hypoxia, hypoglycemia, ischemia, trauma, and nervous insult. Glutamate exposure and stimulation has also been implicated as a basis for compulsive disorders, particularly drug dependence. Evidence includes findings in many animal species, as well as in cerebral cortical cultures treated with glutamate or NMDA, that glutamate receptor antagonists (i.e., compounds which block glutamate from binding to or activating its receptor) block neural damage following vascular stroke. Attempts to prevent excitotoxicity by blocking NMDA, AMPA, Kainate and MGR receptors have proven difficult because each receptor has multiple sites to which glutamate may bind and hence finding an effective mix of antagonists or universal antagonist to prevent binding of glutamate to all of the receptor and allow testing of this theory, has been difficult. Moreover, many of the compositions that are effective in blocking the receptors are also toxic to animals. As such, there is presently no known effective treatment for glutamate abnormalities. The stimulation of NMDA receptors by glutamate, for example, activates the enzyme neuronal nitric oxide synthase (nNOS), leading to the formation of nitric oxide (NO), which also mediates neurotoxicity. NMDA neurotoxicity may be prevented by

treatment with nitric oxide synthase (NOS) inhibitors or through targeted genetic disruption of nNOS in vitro.

5 Another use for PARP inhibitors is the treatment of peripheral nerve injuries, and the resultant pathological pain syndrome known as neuropathic pain, such as that induced by chronic constriction injury (CCI) of the common sciatic nerve and in which transsynaptic alteration of spinal cord dorsal horn characterized by hyperchromatosis of cytoplasm and nucleoplasm (so-called "dark" neurons) occurs.

10 Evidence also exists that PARP inhibitors are useful for treating inflammatory bowel disorders, such as colitis. Specifically, colitis was induced in rats by intraluminal administration of the hapten trinitrobenzene sulfonic acid in 50% ethanol. Treated rats received 3-aminobenzamide, a specific inhibitor of PARP activity. Inhibition of PARP activity reduced the inflammatory response and restored the morphology and the
15 energetic status of the distal colon.

Further evidence suggests that PARP inhibitors are useful for treating arthritis. Further, PARP inhibitors appear to be useful for treating diabetes. PARP inhibitors have been shown to be useful for treating endotoxic shock or septic shock.

20 PARP inhibitors have also been used to extend the lifespan and proliferative capacity of cells including treatment of diseases such as skin aging, Alzheimer's disease, atherosclerosis, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, muscular dystrophy, degenerative diseases of skeletal muscle involving replicative senescence, age-related muscular degeneration, immune senescence, AIDS, and other immune senescence disease; and to alter gene
25 expression of senescent cells.

It is also known that PARP inhibitors, such as 3-amino benzamide, affect overall DNA repair in response, for example, to hydrogen peroxide or ionizing radiation.

30 The pivotal role of PARP in the repair of DNA strand breaks is well established, especially when caused directly by ionizing radiation or, indirectly after enzymatic repair of DNA lesions induced by methylating agents, topoisomerases I inhibitors and other chemotherapeutic agents as cisplatin and bleomycin. A variety of studies using
35 "knockout" mice, trans-dominant inhibition models (over-expression of the DNA-binding domain), antisense and small molecular weight inhibitors have demonstrated the role of PARP in repair and cell survival after induction of DNA damage. The

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inhibition of PARP enzymatic activity should lead to an enhanced sensitivity of the tumor cells towards DNA damaging treatments.

5 PARP inhibitors have been reported to be effective in radiosensitizing (hypoxic) tumor cells and effective in preventing tumor cells from recovering from potentially lethal and sublethal damage of DNA after radiation therapy, presumably by their ability to prevent DNA strand break rejoining and by affecting several DNA damage signaling pathways.

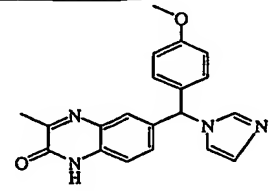
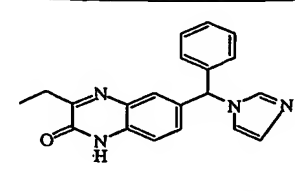
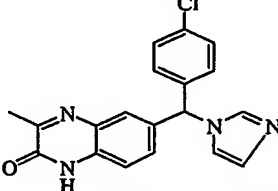
10 PARP inhibitors have been used to treat cancer. In addition, U.S. Patent No.5,177,075 discusses several isoquinolines used for enhancing the lethal effects of ionizing radiation or chemotherapeutic agents on tumor cells. Weltin et al., "Effect of 6(5 - Phenanthridinone, an Inhibitor of Poly(ADP-ribose) Polymerase, on Cultured Tumor Cells", Oncol. Res., 6:9, 399-403 (1994), discusses the inhibition of PARP activity, reduced proliferation of tumor cells, and a marked synergistic effect when tumor cells
15 are co- treated with an alkylating drug.

A recent comprehensive review of the state of the art has been published by Li and Zhang in IDrugs 2001, 4(7): 804-812.

20 There continues to be a need for effective and potent PARP inhibitors, and more particularly PARP-1 inhibitors which produce minimal side effects. The present invention provides compounds, compositions for, and methods of, inhibiting PARP activity for treating cancer and/or preventing cellular, tissue and/or organ damage resulting from cell damage or death due to, for example, necrosis or apoptosis. The
25 compounds and compositions of the present invention are especially useful in enhancing the effectiveness of chemotherapy and radiotherapy where a primary effect of the treatment is that of causing DNA damage in the targeted cells.

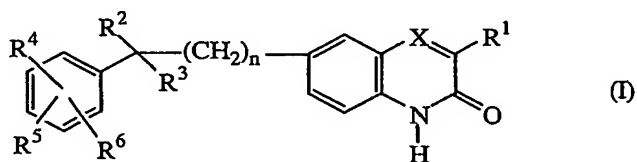
Background prior art

30 EP 371564, published on June 6, 1990, discloses (1*H*-azol-1-ylmethyl) substituted quinoline, quinazoline or quinoxaline derivatives. The described compounds suppress the plasma elimination of retinoic acids. More in particular the compounds 6-[(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone
35 (compound No. 128 of the present application) , 3-ethyl-6-(1*H*-imidazol-1-ylphenylmethyl)-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 127 of the present application) and 6-[(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-ylmethyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 146 of the present application) are disclosed.

 <p>compound 128</p>	 <p>compound 127</p>
 <p>compound 146</p>	

Description of the invention

5 This invention concerns compounds of formula (I)



10 the *N*-oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2;

15 *X* is N or CR⁷, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or taken together with R¹ may form a bivalent radical of formula -CH=CH-CH=CH-;

R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl or thiophenyl;

20 R² is hydrogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆alkynyl or taken together with R³ may form =O;

R³ is a radical selected from

- 25
- (CH₂)₅-NR⁸R⁹ (a-1),
 - O-H (a-2),
 - O-R¹⁰ (a-3),
 - S-R¹¹ (a-4), or

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wherein

s is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

 R^8 , R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from ---CHO , C_{1-6} alkyl,

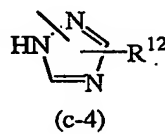
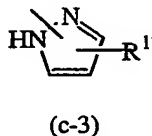
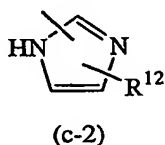
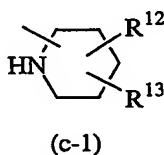
- 5 hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino,
 di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl,
 piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,
 piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl,
 pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl,
 10 arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, or
 aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl; and

 R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;or R^3 is a group of formula

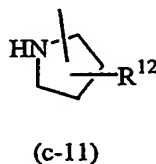
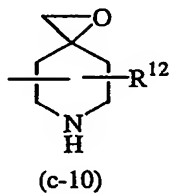
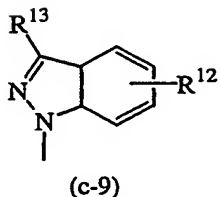
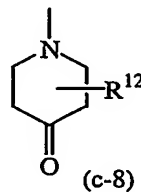
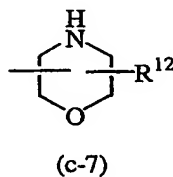
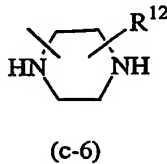
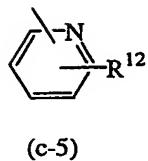
- 15 wherein

t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

-Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from

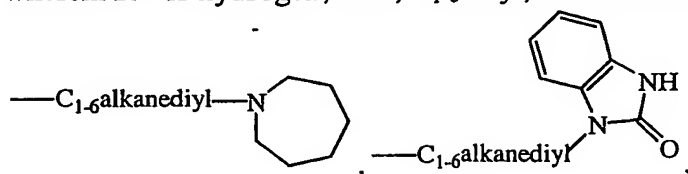


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wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, aminocarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, aryl,



- C_{1-6} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(phenyl C_{2-6} alkenyl), piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,
- 5 C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino, morpholino, C_{1-6} alkylimidazolyl, or pyridinyl C_{1-6} alkylamino;
- R^{13} is hydrogen, piperidinyl or aryl;
- 10 R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, amino, amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, or C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, or amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy; or
- 15 when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula
- | | |
|--|-----------|
| -O-CH ₂ -O | (d-1), |
| -O-(CH ₂) ₂ -O- | (d-2), |
| -CH=CH-CH=CH- | (d-3), or |
| 20 -NH-C(O)-NR ¹⁴ =CH- | (d-4), |
- wherein R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halo, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

- 25 with the proviso that when
- n is 0, X is N, R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl, R^2 is hydrogen, R^3 is a group of formula (b-1), t is 0, Z is the heterocyclic ring system (c-2) wherein said heterocyclic ring system Z is attached to the rest of the molecule with a nitrogen atom, and R^{12} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; then
- 30 at least one of the substituents R^4 , R^5 or R^6 is other than hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyloxy and trihalomethyl.

- Whenever the heterocyclic ring system Z contains a -CH₂-, -CH=, or -NH- moiety the substituents R^{12} and R^{13} or the rest of the molecule can be attached to the carbon or
- 35 nitrogen atom in which case one or both hydrogen atoms are replaced.

The compounds of formula (I) may also exist in their tautomeric forms. Such forms although not explicitly indicated in the above formula are intended to be included within the scope of the present invention.

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A number of terms used in the foregoing definitions and hereinafter are explained hereunder. These terms are sometimes used as such or in composite terms.

10

As used in the foregoing definitions and hereinafter, halo is generic to fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo; C₁₋₆alkyl defines straight and branched chain saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms such as, e.g. methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, 1-methylethyl, 2-methylpropyl, 2-methyl-butyl, 2-methylpentyl and the like; C₁₋₆alkanediyl defines bivalent straight and branched chained saturated

15

hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms such as, for example, methylene, 1,2-ethanediyl, 1,3-propanediyl, 1,4-butanediyl, 1,5-pentanediy, 1,6-hexanediyl and the branched isomers thereof such as, 2-methylpentanediyl, 3-methylpentanediyl, 2,2-dimethylbutanediyl, 2,3-dimethylbutanediyl and the like; trihalomethyl defines

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methyl containing three identical or different halo substituents for example trifluoromethyl; C₂₋₆alkenyl defines straight and branched chain hydrocarbon radicals containing one double bond and having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms such as, for example, ethenyl, 2-propenyl, 3-butenyl, 2-pentenyl, 3-pentenyl, 3-methyl-2-butenyl, and the like; C₃₋₆alkynyl defines straight and branch chained hydrocarbon radicals containing

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one triple bond and having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, such as, for example, 2-propynyl, 3-butynyl, 2-butylnyl, 2-pentylnyl, 3-pentylnyl, 3-hexynyl, and the like; C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl includes cyclic hydrocarbon groups having from 3 to 10 carbons, such as cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl and the like.

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The term "addition salt" comprises the salts which the compounds of formula (I) are able to form with organic or inorganic bases such as amines, alkali metal bases and earth alkaline metal bases, or quaternary ammonium bases, or with organic or inorganic acids, such as mineral acids, sulfonic acids, carboxylic acids or phosphorus containing acids.

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The term "addition salt" further comprises pharmaceutically acceptable salts, metal complexes and solvates and the salts thereof, that the compounds of formula (I) are able to form.

The term "pharmaceutically acceptable salts" means pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts. The pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts as mentioned hereinabove are meant to comprise the therapeutically active non-toxic acid and non-toxic base addition salt forms which the compounds of formula (I) are able to form. The compounds of formula (I) which have basic properties can be converted in their pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts by treating said base form with an appropriate acid. Appropriate acids comprise, for example, inorganic acids such as hydrohalic acids, e.g. hydrochloric or hydrobromic acid; sulfuric; nitric; phosphoric and the like acids; or organic acids such as, for example, acetic, propanoic, hydroxyacetic, lactic, pyruvic, oxalic, malonic, succinic (*i.e.* butanedioic acid), maleic, fumaric, malic, tartaric, citric, methanesulfonic, ethanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, *p*-toluenesulfonic, cyclamic, salicylic, *p*-aminosalicylic, pamoic and the like acids.

The compounds of formula (I) which have acidic properties may be converted in their pharmaceutically acceptable base addition salts by treating said acid form with a suitable organic or inorganic base. Appropriate base salt forms comprise, for example, the ammonium salts, the alkali and earth alkaline metal salts, e.g. the lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium salts and the like, salts with organic bases, e.g. the benzathine, *N*-methyl-D-glucamine, hydrabamine salts, and salts with amino acids such as, for example, arginine, lysine and the like.

The terms acid or base addition salt also comprise the hydrates and the solvent addition forms which the compounds of formula (I) are able to form. Examples of such forms are e.g. hydrates, alcoholates and the like.

The term "metal complexes" means a complex formed between a compound of formula (I) and one or more organic or inorganic metal salt or salts. Examples of said organic or inorganic salts comprise the halogenides, nitrates, sulfates, phosphates, acetates, trifluoroacetates, trichloroacetates, propionates, tartrates, sulfonates, e.g. methylsulfonates, 4-methylphenylsulfonates, salicylates, benzoates and the like of the metals of the second main group of the periodical system, e.g. the magnesium or calcium salts, of the third or fourth main group, e.g. aluminium, tin, lead as well as the first to the eighth transition groups of the periodical system such as, for example, chromium, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc and the like.

The term stereochemically isomeric forms of compounds of formula (I), as used hereinbefore, defines all possible compounds made up of the same atoms bonded by the same sequence of bonds but having different three-dimensional structures which are not interchangeable, which the compounds of formula (I) may possess. Unless otherwise mentioned or indicated, the chemical designation of a compound encompasses the

mixture of all possible stereochemically isomeric forms which said compound may possess. Said mixture may contain all diastereomers and/or enantiomers of the basic molecular structure of said compound. All stereochemically isomeric forms of the compounds of formula (I) both in pure form or in admixture with each other are
5 intended to be embraced within the scope of the present invention.

The *N*-oxide forms of the compounds of formula (I) are meant to comprise those compounds of formula (I) wherein one or several nitrogen atoms are oxidized to the so-called *N*-oxide, particularly those *N*-oxides wherein one or more of the piperidine-,
10 piperazine or pyridazinyl-nitrogens are *N*-oxidized.

Whenever used hereinafter, the term "compounds of formula (I)" is meant to include also the *N*-oxide forms, the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts and all stereoisomeric forms.

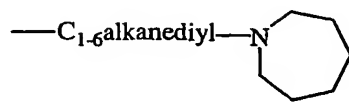
15 The compounds described in EP 371564 suppress the plasma elimination of retinoic acids. 6-[(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 128 of the present application), 3-ethyl-6-(1*H*-imidazol-1-ylphenylmethyl)-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 127 of the present application)
20 and 6-[(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-ylmethyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 146 of the present application) have been disclosed in EP 371564. Unexpectedly, it has been found that the compounds of the present invention show PARP inhibitory activity.

25 A first group of interesting compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I) wherein one or more of the following restrictions apply:

- a) R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl;
- b) R^3 is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-2), (a-3) or (a-5) or is a group of formula (b-1);
- c) *s* is 0, 1 or 2;
- 30 d) R^8 and R^{10} are each independently selected from -CHO, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl,
35 arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindozolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl;
- e) *t* is 0 or 2;

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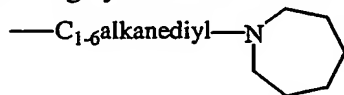
f) Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from (c-1), (c-2), (c-4), (c-6), (c-8), (c-9), or (c-11);



- g) R¹² is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkylamino, di(phenylC₂₋₆alkenyl), piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkyl, haloindazolyl, or arylC₂₋₆alkenyl;
- 5 h) R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyloxy or C₁₋₆alkyloxy carbonyl; and
- i) when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-1) or (d-2).
- 10

A second group of interesting compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I) wherein one or more of the following restrictions apply:

- a) n is 0;
- 15 b) X is CR⁷, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or taken together with R¹ may form a bivalent radical of formula -CH=CH-CH=CH-;
- c) R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl;
- d) R² is hydrogen;
- e) R³ is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-2) or (a-3) or is a group of formula (b-1);
- 20 f) s is 0 or 2;
- g) R⁸ and R¹⁰ are each independently selected from -CHO, C₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylcarbonylpiperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, or arylC₁₋₆alkyl(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl;
- 25 h) t is 0 or 2;
- i) Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from (c-1), (c-2) or (c-6);

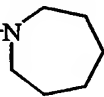


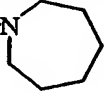
- j) R¹² is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkylamino, or piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl;
- k) R¹³ is hydrogen or aryl;
- 30 l) R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen or trihalomethyl; and
- m) when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-1) or (d-2).

A third group of interesting compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I), the first group of interesting compounds or the second group of interesting compounds

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wherein Z is a heterocyclic ring system other than the heterocyclic ring system of formula (c-2) or (c-4).

- A group of preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I) wherein
- 5 R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl; R^3 is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-2), (a-3) or (a-5) or is a group of formula (b-1); s is 0, 1 or 2; R^8 and R^{10} are each independently selected from -CHO, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl; t is 0 or 2; Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from (c-1), (c-2), (c-4), (c-6), (c-8), (c-9), or (c-11); R^{12} is hydrogen,
- C_{1-6} alkanediyl—N
- C_{1-6} alkyl, aminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(phenyl C_{2-6} alkenyl), piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolyl, or aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl; R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl; and when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-1) or (d-2).
- 15
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- A further group of preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I) wherein n is 0; X is CR^7 , wherein R^7 is hydrogen or taken together with R^1 may form a bivalent radical of formula -CH=CH-CH=CH-; R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-2) or (a-3) or is a group of formula (b-1); s is 0 or 2; R^8 and R^{10} are each independently selected from -CHO, C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl; t is 0 or 2; Z is a heterocyclic ring system
- C_{1-6} alkanediyl—N
- selected from (c-1), (c-2) or (c-6); R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino, or piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl; R^{13} is hydrogen or aryl; R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen or trihalomethyl; and when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-1) or (d-2).
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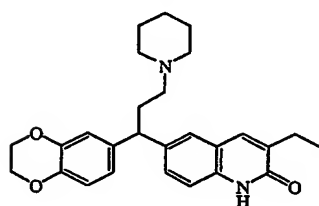
An even further group of preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I), the group of preferred compounds or the further group of preferred compounds wherein Z is a heterocyclic ring system other than the heterocyclic ring system of formula (c-2) or (c-4).

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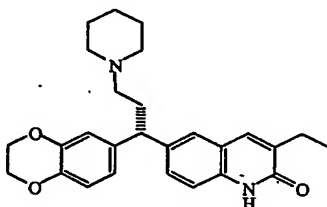
A group of more preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (I) wherein n is 0; X is CH; R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl; R² is hydrogen; R³ is a group of formula (b-1); t is 2; Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from (c-1); R¹² is hydrogen; R¹³ is hydrogen; and R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions and taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-2).

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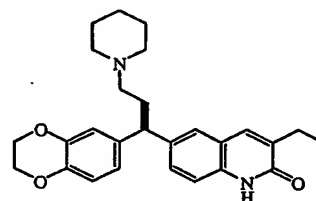
The most preferred compounds are compounds No 16, compound No 144, and compound No. 145.



compound 16



Compound 144



Compound 145

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The compounds of formula (I) can be prepared according to the general methods described in EP 371564.

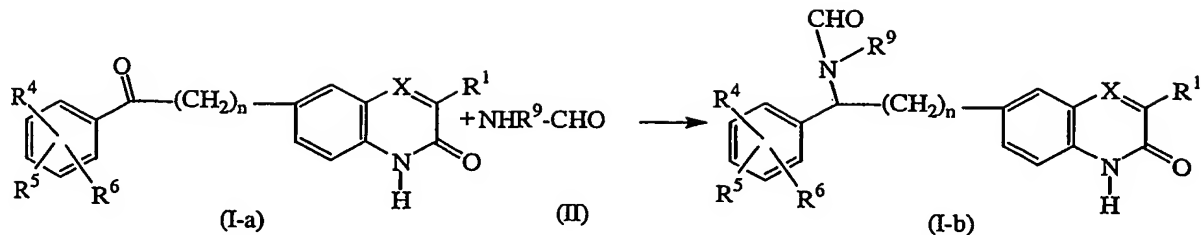
A number of such preparation methods will be described hereinafter in more detail. Other methods for obtaining final compounds of formula (I) are described in the examples.

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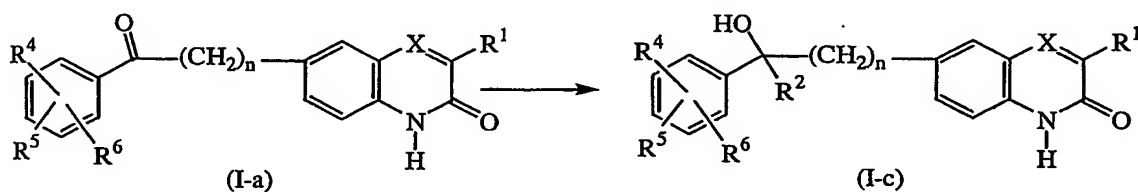
Compounds of formula (I) wherein R² is hydrogen and R³ is -NR⁹-CHO wherein and R⁹ is hydrogen or methyl, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-b), can be prepared starting from compounds of formula (I), wherein R² taken together with R³ forms =O, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-a), in the presence of formamide or methylformamide, here indicated as intermediates of formula (II), and formic acid.

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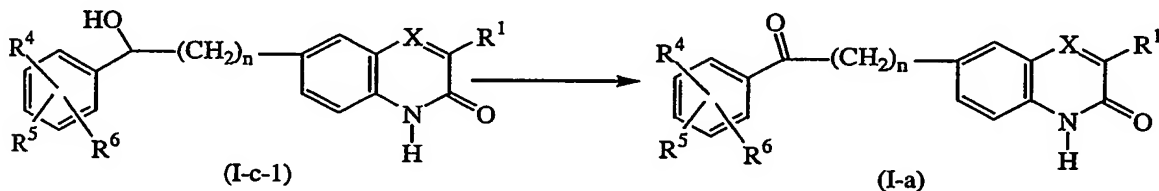
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Compounds of formula (I), wherein R^3 is hydroxy, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-c), can be prepared by converting the keton moiety of compounds of formula (I-a) into an hydroxy group, with an appropriate reductant, e.g., sodium borohydride in a suitable solvent, e.g. methanol and tetrahydrofuran.

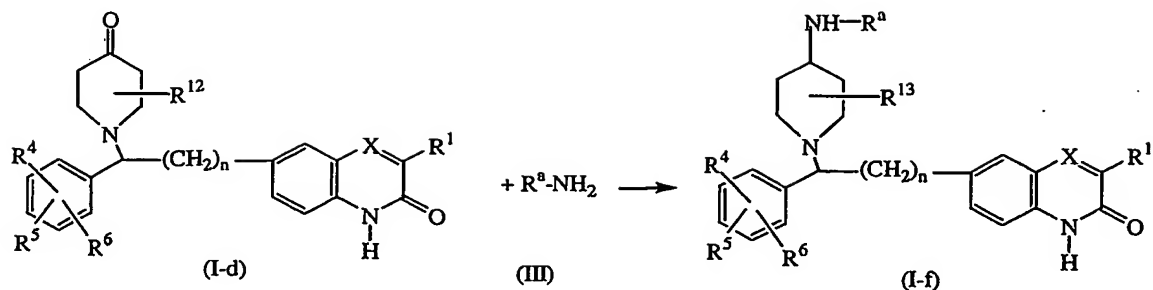


Compounds of formula (I-a) can be prepared by converting compounds of formula (I-c), wherein R^2 is hydrogen, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-c-1), in the presence of a suitable oxidant such as chromium trioxide and an acid such as sulfuric acid, in a suitable solvent such as 2-propanone.

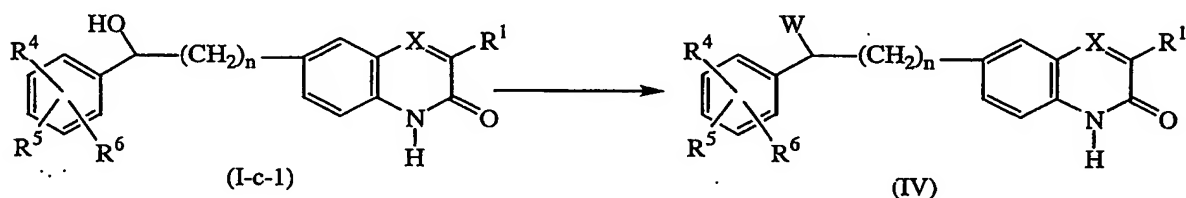


Compounds of formula (I) wherein R^2 is hydrogen and R^3 is a radical of formula (c-1), herein referred to as a compound of formula (I-f), can be prepared by reacting compounds of formula (I) wherein R^2 is hydrogen and R^3 is a radical of formula (c-8), herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-d), with an amine of formula (III), wherein R^a is an appropriate radical, in the presence of a suitable solvent such as methanol and a suitable reagent such as sodium cyanoborohydride.

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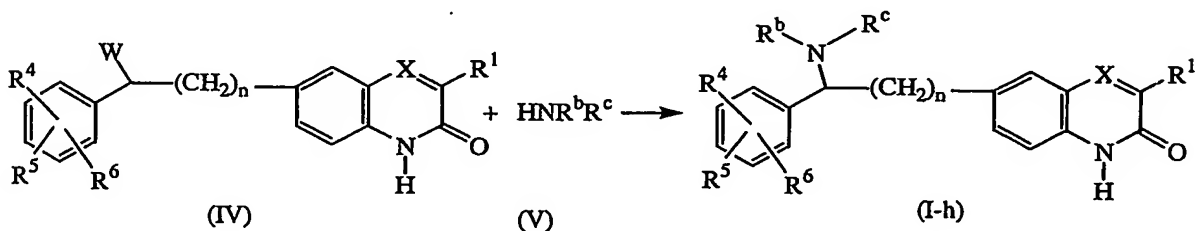
Intermediates of formula (IV), wherein W is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, chloro, bromo, methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy can be prepared from compounds of formula (I-c-1) by treating said compounds with a suitable reagent e.g. methanesulfonyloxy chloride or benzenesulfonyloxy chloride, or a halogenating reagent such as e.g. POCl₃ or SOCl₂.



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Compounds of formula (I), defined as compounds of formula (I) wherein R^b is as defined in R⁸ and R^c is as defined in R⁹, or R^b and R^c taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an appropriate heterocyclic ring system as defined in Z, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-h), can be prepared by reacting an intermediate of formula (IV) with an intermediate of formula (V). The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as dimethylformamide or acetonitrile, and optionally in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate or triethylamine.

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The compounds of formula (I) may also be converted into each other via art-known reactions or functional group transformations. A number of such transformations are already described hereinabove. Other examples are hydrolysis of carboxylic esters to the corresponding carboxylic acid or alcohol; hydrolysis of amides to the corresponding

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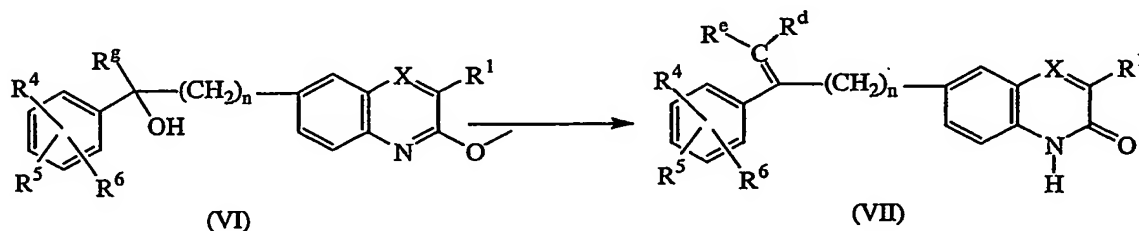
carboxylic acids or amines; hydrolysis of nitriles to the corresponding amides; amino groups on imidazole or phenyl may be replaced by a hydrogen by art-known diazotation reactions and subsequent replacement of the diazo-group by hydrogen; alcohols may be converted into esters and ethers; primary amines may be converted
 5 into secondary or tertiary amines; double bonds may be hydrogenated to the corresponding single bond; an iodo radical on a phenyl group may be converted in to an ester group by carbon monoxide insertion in the presence of a suitable palladium catalyst.

10 Hence, compounds of formula (I), (I-a), (I-a-1), (I-b), (I-c), (I-c-1), (I-d), (I-e), (I-f), (I-h), (I-i) and (I-j) can optionally be the subject of one or more of the following conversions in any desired order:

- (i) converting a compound of formula (I) into a different compound of formula (I);
- (ii) converting a compound of formula (I) into the corresponding acceptable salt or
 15 N-oxide thereof;
- (iii) converting a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide of a compound of formula (I) into the parent compound of formula (I);
- (iv) preparing a stereochemical isomeric form of a compound of formula (I) or a
 20 pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof.

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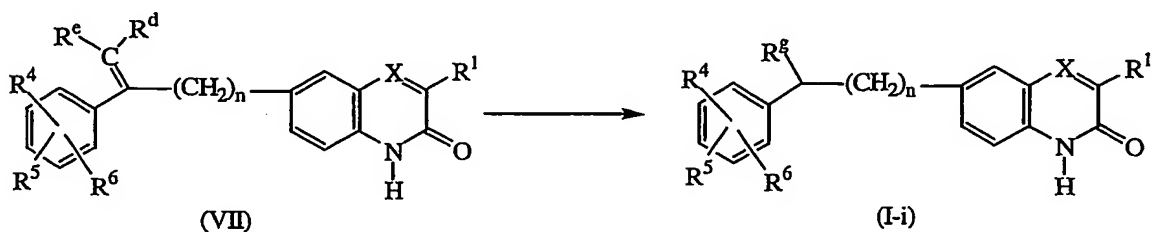
Intermediates of formula (VII), wherein R^d and R^e are appropriate radicals or taken together with the carbon to which they are attached, form an appropriate heterocyclic ring system as defined in Z, can be prepared by hydrolysing intermediates of formula (VI), wherein R^3 is a group of formula (b-1) or a radical of formula (a-1) wherein s is
 25 other than 0, herein referred to as R^g , according to art-known methods, such as stirring the intermediate (VI) in an aqueous acid solution in the presence of a reaction inert solvent, e.g. tetrahydrofuran. An appropriate acid is for instance hydrochloric acid.



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Compounds of formula (I) wherein R^2 is hydrogen and R^g is as defined above, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-i), can be prepared starting from intermediates of formula (VII), by a selective hydrogenation of said intermediate with an appropriate reducing agent such as, for example with a noble catalyst, such as platinum-on-

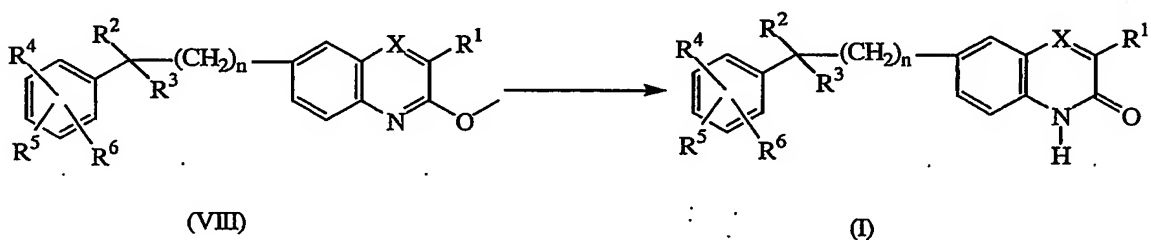
charcoal, palladium-on-charcoal and the like and an appropriate reductant such as hydrogen in a suitable solvent such as methanol.



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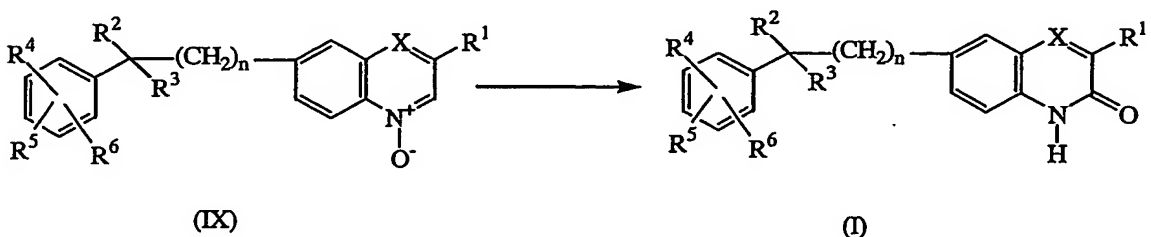
Compounds of formula (I) can be prepared by hydrolysing intermediates of formula (VIII), according to art-known methods, by submitting the intermediates of formula (VIII) to appropriate reagents, such as, tinchloride, acetic acid and hydrochloric acid, in the presence of a reaction inert solvent, e.g. tetrahydrofuran.

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Compounds of formula (I) can be prepared starting from N-oxides of formula (IX) by converting the intermediates of formula (IX) in the presence of a suitable reagent such as sodium carbonate or acetic anhydride and when appropriate in a solvent such as dichloromethane.

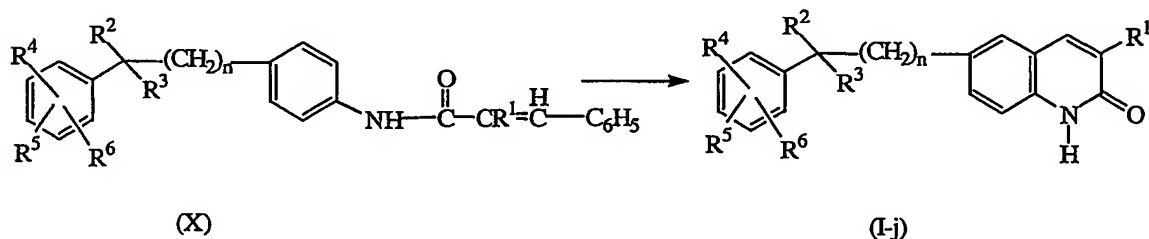


20 The compounds of formula (I) wherein X is CH herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-j), may also be obtained by cyclizing an intermediate of formula (X). The cyclization reaction of intermediates of formula (X) may be conducted according to art-known cyclizing procedures. Preferably the reaction is carried out in the presence of a suitable Lewis Acid, e.g. aluminum chloride either neat or in a suitable solvent such as, for example, an aromatic hydrocarbon, e.g. benzene, chlorobenzene, methylbenzene

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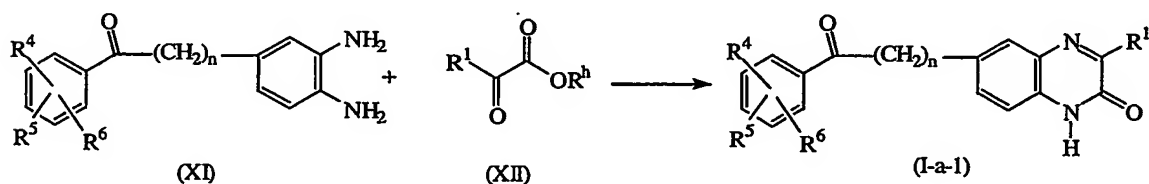
and the like; halogenated hydrocarbons, e.g. trichloromethane, tetrachloromethane and the like; an ether, e.g. tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane and the like; or mixtures of such solvents. Somewhat elevated temperatures, preferably between 70°-100°C, and stirring may enhance the rate of the reaction.

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The compounds of formula (I), wherein X is N and R² taken together with R³ forms =O, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-a-1) may be obtained by condensing an appropriate ortho-benzenediamine of formula (XI) with an ester of formula (XII) wherein R^h is C₁₋₆alkyl. The condensation of the substituted ortho-diamine of formula (XI) and the ester of formula (XII) can be carried out in the presence of a carboxylic acid, e.g. acetic acid and the like, a mineral acid such as, for example hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, or a sulfonic acid such as, for example, methanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 4-methylbenzenesulfonic acid and the like. Somewhat elevated temperatures may be appropriate to enhance the rate of the reaction and in some cases the reaction may even be carried out at the reflux temperature of the reaction mixture. The water which is liberated during the condensation may be removed from the mixture by azeotropic distillation, distillation and the like methods.

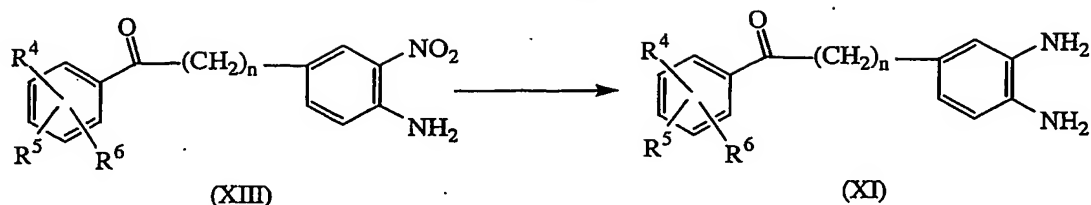
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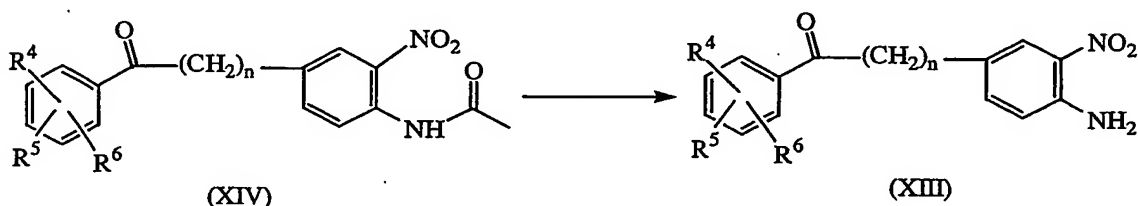
Intermediates of formula (XI) can be prepared by a nitro to amine reduction reaction starting with an intermediate of formula (XIII) in the presence of a metal catalyst such as Raney Nickel and an appropriate reductant such as hydrogen in a suitable solvent such as methanol.

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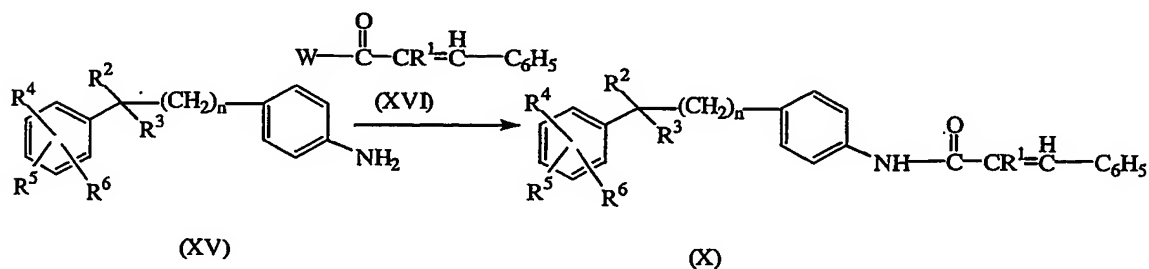
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- Intermediates of formula (XIII) can be prepared by hydrolysing intermediates of formula (XIV), according to art-known methods, such as stirring the intermediate (XIV) in an aqueous acid solution in the presence of a reaction inert solvent, e.g. tetrahydrofuran,. An appropriate acid is for instance hydrochloric acid.

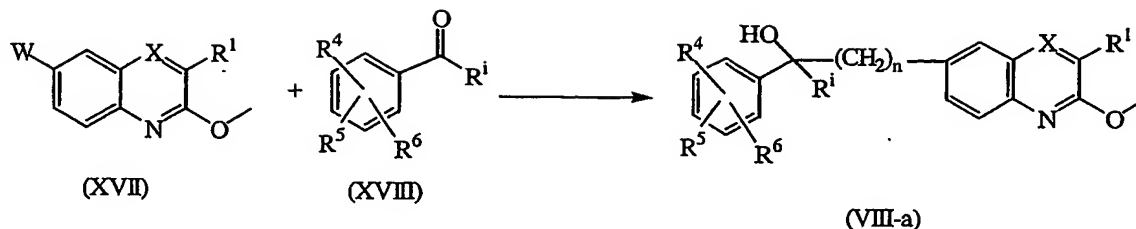


- Intermediates of formula (X) can conveniently be prepared by reacting an aniline of formula (XV) with a halide of formula (XVI) in the presence of a base such as pyridine in a suitable solvent such as dichloromethane.

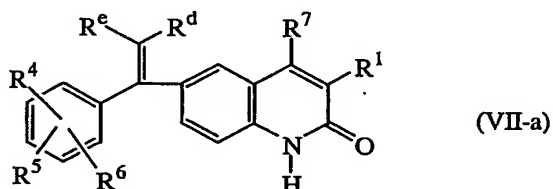


- Intermediates of formula (VIII) wherein R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy and when R^2 is hydrogen then R^3 is hydroxy herein referred to as intermediates of formula (VIII-a) can be prepared by treating an intermediate of formula (XVII), wherein W is halo, with an organolithium reagent such as, e.g. n-butyllithium in a reaction inert solvent, e.g. tetrahydrofuran, and subsequently reacting said intermediate with an intermediate of formula (XVIII) wherein R^i is hydrogen or a radical as defined in R^3 .

-21-



The present invention also relates to a compound of formula (VII), wherein n is 0, X is CR^7 and R^e and R^d have the meanings as defined below, herein referred to as compounds of formula (VII-a)



the N -oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

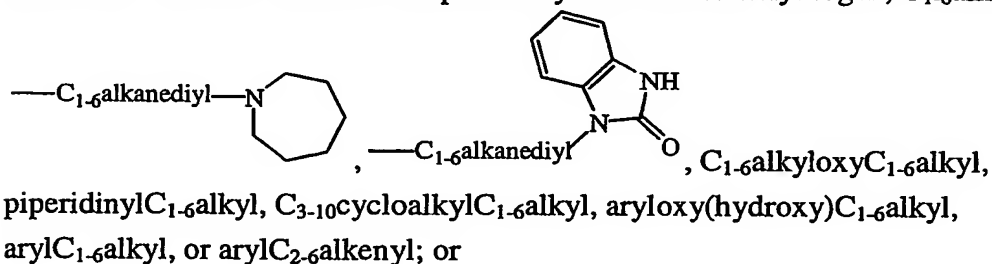
R^1, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and aryl are as defined for the compounds of formula (I);

R^e is hydrogen or taken together with R^d may form a bivalent radical of formula

(e-1), or

(e-2),

wherein R^{15} and R^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl,

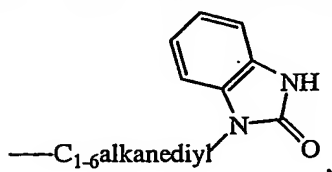


R^d is di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl or piperidinyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl.

A first group of interesting compounds of formula (VII-a) consists of those compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein one or more of the following restrictions apply:

a) R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl;

b) R^{15} and R^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl,



aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl;

c) R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen or halo;

5 d) when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (b-2) or (b-4); and

e) aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with halo or C_{1-6} alkyloxy.

10 A second group of interesting compounds of formula (VII-a) consists of those compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein one or more of the following restrictions apply:

a) R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl;

b) R^e is hydrogen or taken together with R^d may form a bivalent radical of formula (e-1);

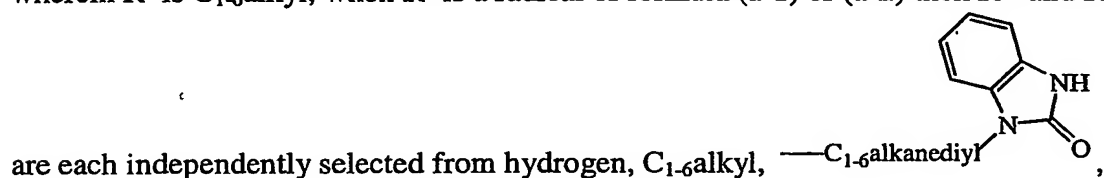
c) R^{15} and R^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen or aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl;

15 d) R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen;

e) when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (b-2); and

e) aryl is phenyl substituted with halo or C_{1-6} alkyloxy.

20 A group of preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl; when R^e is a radical of formula (a-1) or (a-2) then R^{15} and R^{16}



are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl,

aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, or

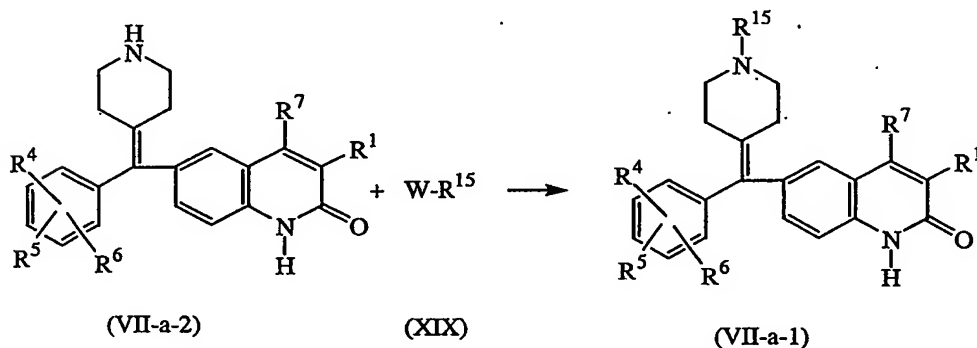
aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl; R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen or halo

25 or when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (b-2) or (b-4); and aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with halo or C_{1-6} alkyloxy.

30 A further group of preferred compounds consists of those compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl; R^e is hydrogen or taken together with R^d may form a bivalent radical of formula (a-1); R^{15} and R^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen or aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl; R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from

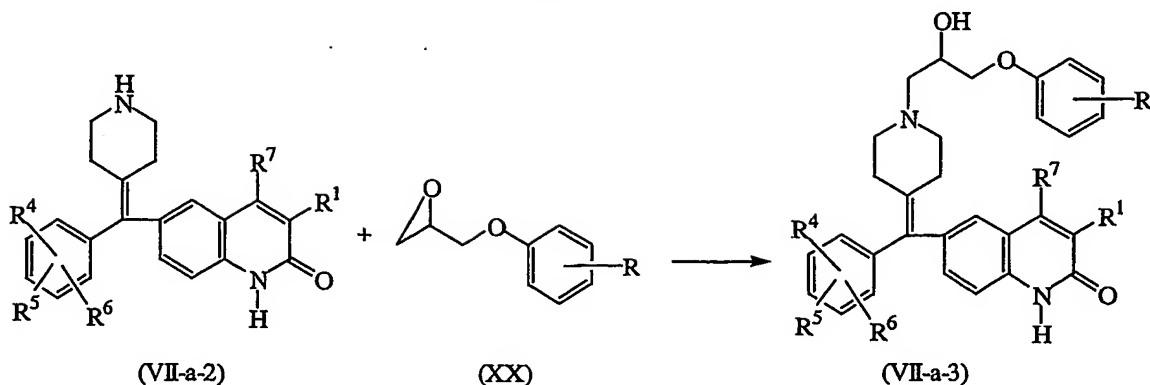
hydrogen or when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (b-2); and aryl is phenyl substituted with halo or C₁₋₆alkyloxy.

- 5 Compounds of formula (VII-a-1), defined as compounds of formula (VII-a), wherein R^e taken together with R^d forms a bivalent radical of formula (e-1) or (e-2) (e.g. a bivalent radical of formula (e-1)) and R¹⁵ or R¹⁶ (e.g. R¹⁵) are other than hydrogen, can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VII-a), wherein R^e taken together with R^d forms a bivalent radical of formula (e-1) or (e-2) (e.g. a bivalent
- 10 radical of formula (e-1)) and R¹⁵ or R¹⁶ (e.g. R¹⁵) are hydrogen, herein referred to as compounds of formula (VII-a-2), with an intermediate of formula (XIX) wherein W is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, chloro, bromo, methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy and R¹⁵ or R¹⁶ (e.g. R¹⁵) are other than hydrogen. The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, sodium carbonate,
- 15 potassium carbonate or triethylamine.



- Compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein R¹⁵ or R¹⁶ (e.g. R¹⁵) are
- 20 aryloxy(hydroxy)C₁₋₆alkyl, herein referred to as compounds of formula (VII-a-3), can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VII-a-2) with an intermediate of formula (XX) wherein R is an appropriate substituent in the presence of 2-propanol.

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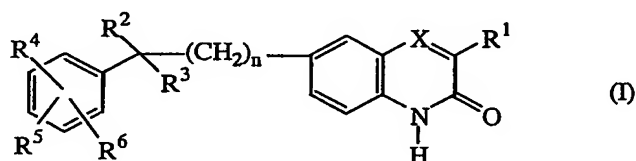
The present invention also relates to compounds of formula (I) or formula (VII-a) as defined above for use as a medicine.

5

The compounds of the present invention have PARP inhibiting properties as can be seen from the experimental part hereunder.

10

The present invention also contemplates the use of compounds in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of one or more diseases and disorders in an animal described herein, wherein said compound is a compound of formula (I)



15

the *N*-oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2;

20

X is N or CR⁷, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or taken together with R¹ may form a bivalent radical of formula -CH=CH-CH=CH-;

R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl or thiophenyl;

25

R² is hydrogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆alkynyl or taken together with R³ may form =O;

R³ is a radical selected from

-25-

- $-(CH_2)_s-NR^8R^9$ (a-1),
 $-O-H$ (a-2),
 $-O-R^{10}$ (a-3),
 $-S-R^{11}$ (a-4), or
 $-C\equiv N$ (a-5),

5

wherein

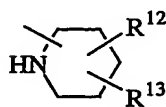
s is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

 R^8 , R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from $-CHO$, C_{1-6} alkyl,hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino,10 di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl,piperidinyll C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, piperidinyll C_{1-6} alkyl,piperidinyll C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl,pyrrolyll C_{1-6} alkyl, aryll C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyll, arylcarbonyll C_{1-6} alkyl,arylcarbonylpiperidinyll C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyll C_{1-6} alkyl,15 aryll C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, and R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;or R^3 is a group of formula

wherein

20 t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

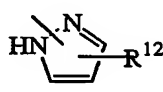
-Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from



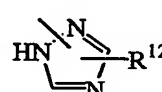
(c-1)



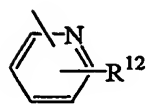
(c-2)



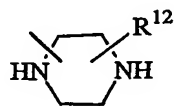
(c-3)



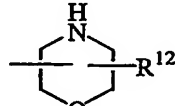
(c-4)



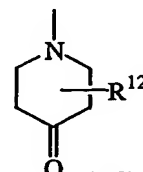
(c-5)



(c-6)

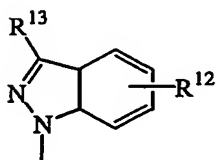


(c-7)

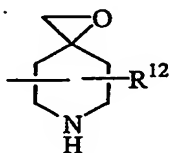


(c-8)

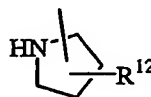
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(c-9)



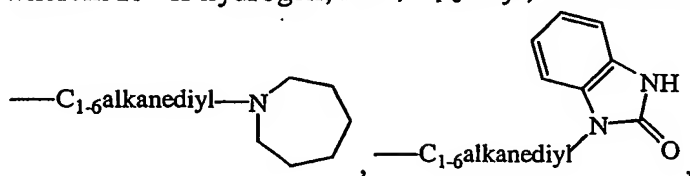
(c-10)



(c-11)

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wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, aminocarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, aryl,



C_{1-6} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(phenyl C_{2-6} alkenyl), piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

- 5 C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino, morpholino, C_{1-6} alkylimidazolyl, pyridinyl C_{1-6} alkylamino; and

R^{13} is hydrogen, piperidinyl or aryl;

- 10 R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, amino, amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, or C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, or amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy; or

- 15 when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula

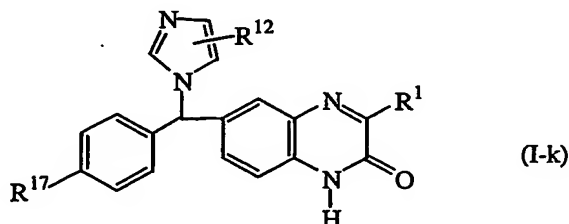


- 20 -NH-C(O)-NR¹⁴=CH- (d-4),

wherein R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halo, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy.

- 25 The present invention also contemplates the use of compounds of formula (I) in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of one or more diseases and disorders in an animal described herein, wherein the compound is a compound of formula (I-k)



(I-k)

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the *N*-oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

- n is 0;
- 5 X is N;
R¹ is methyl or ethyl;
R² is hydrogen;
R³ is a group of formula (b-1);
t is 0;
- 10 -Z is the heterocyclic ring system (c-2) wherein said heterocyclic ring system -Z is attached to the rest of the molecule with a nitrogen atom;
R¹² is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and
R¹⁷ is halo or C₁₋₆alkyloxy or when R¹ is ethyl than R¹⁷ can be hydrogen.
- 15 More in particular the compound of formula (I-k) is 6-[(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 128), 3-ethyl-6-(1*H*-imidazol-1-ylphenylmethyl)-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 127) and 6-[(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-ylmethyl]-3-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinoxalinone (compound No. 146).
- 20 The present invention also contemplates the use of compounds of formula (VII-a) in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of one or more diseases and disorders in an animal described herein
- 25 The compounds of the present invention can treat or prevent tissue damage resulting from cell damage or death due to necrosis or apoptosis; can ameliorate neural or cardiovascular tissue damage, including that following focal ischemia, myocardial infarction, and reperfusion injury; can treat various diseases and conditions caused or exacerbated by PARP activity; can extend or increase the lifespan or proliferative
- 30 capacity of cells; can alter the gene expression of senescent cells; can radiosensitize and/or chemosensitize cells. Generally, inhibition of PARP activity spares the cells from energy loss, preventing, in the case of neural cells, irreversible depolarization of the neurons, and thus, provides neuroprotection.
- 35 For the foregoing reasons, the present invention further relates to a method of administering a therapeutically effective amount of the above-identified compounds in an amount sufficient to inhibit PARP activity, to treat or prevent tissue damage resulting from cell damage or death due to necrosis or apoptosis, to effect a neuronal

activity not mediated by NMDA toxicity, to effect a neuronal activity mediated by NMDA toxicity, to treat neural tissue damage resulting from ischemia and reperfusion injury, neurological disorders and neurodegenerative diseases; to prevent or treat vascular stroke; to treat or prevent cardiovascular disorders; to treat other conditions and/or disorders such as age-related muscular degeneration, AIDS and other immune senescence diseases, inflammation, gout, arthritis, atherosclerosis, cachexia, cancer, degenerative diseases of skeletal muscle involving replicative senescence, diabetes, head trauma, inflammatory bowel disorders (such as colitis and Crohn's disease), muscular dystrophy, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, chronic and/or acute pain (such as neuropathic pain), renal failure, retinal ischemia, septic shock (such as endotoxic shock), and skin aging, to extend the lifespan and proliferative capacity of cells; to alter gene expression of senescent cells; or chemosensitize and/or radiosensitize (hypoxic) tumor cells. The present invention also relates to treating diseases and conditions in an animal which comprises administering to said animal a therapeutically effective amount of the above-identified compounds.

In particular, the present invention relates to a method of treating, preventing or inhibiting a neurological disorder in an animal, which comprises administering to said animal a therapeutically effective amount of the above-identified compounds. The neurological disorder is selected from the group consisting of peripheral neuropathy caused by physical injury or disease state, traumatic brain injury, physical damage to the spinal cord, stroke associated with brain damage, focal ischemia, global ischemia, reperfusion injury, demyelinating disease and neurological disorder relating to neurodegeneration.

The present invention also contemplates the use of compounds of formula (I) and the compounds of formula (VII-a) for inhibiting PARP activity, for treating, preventing or inhibiting tissue damage resulting from cell damage or death due to necrosis or apoptosis, for treating, preventing or inhibiting a neurological disorder in an animal.

The term "preventing neurodegeneration" includes the ability to prevent neurodegeneration in patients newly diagnosed as having a neurodegenerative disease, or at risk of developing a new degenerative disease and for preventing further neurodegeneration in patients who are already suffering from or have symptoms of a neurodegenerative disease.

35

The term "treatment" as used herein covers any treatment of a disease and/or condition in an animal, particularly a human, and includes: (i) preventing a disease and/or condition from occurring in a subject which may be predisposed to the disease and/or

condition but has not yet been diagnosed as having it; (ii) inhibiting the disease and/or condition, i.e., arresting its development; (iii) relieving the disease and/or condition, i.e., causing regression of the disease and/or condition.

- 5 The term "radiosensitizer", as used herein, is defined as a molecule, preferably a low molecular weight molecule, administered to animals in therapeutically effective amounts to increase the sensitivity of the cells to ionizing radiation and/or to promote the treatment of diseases which are treatable with ionizing radiation. Diseases which are treatable with ionizing radiation include neoplastic diseases, benign and malignant
10 tumors, and cancerous cells. Ionizing radiation treatment of other diseases not listed herein are also contemplated by the present invention.

The term "chemosensitizer", as used herein, is defined as a molecule, preferably a low molecular weight molecule, administered to animals in therapeutically effective
15 amounts to increase the sensitivity of cells to chemotherapy and/or promote the treatment of diseases which are treatable with chemotherapeutics. Diseases which are treatable with chemotherapy include neoplastic diseases, benign and malignant tumors and cancerous cells. Chemotherapy treatment of other diseases not listed herein are also contemplated by the present invention.

20 The compounds, compositions and methods of the present invention are particularly useful for treating or preventing tissue damage resulting from cell death or damage due to necrosis or apoptosis.

The compounds of the present invention can be "anti-cancer agents", which term also
25 encompasses "anti-tumor cell growth agents" and "anti-neoplastic agents". For example, the methods of the invention are useful for treating cancers and chemosensitizing and/or radiosensitizing tumor cells in cancers such as ACTH-producing tumors, acute lymphocytic leukemia, acute nonlymphocytic leukemia, cancer of the adrenal cortex, bladder cancer, brain cancer, breast cancer, cervical
30 cancer, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, chronic myelocytic leukemia, colorectal cancer, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, endometrial cancer, esophageal cancer, Ewing's sarcoma, gallbladder cancer, hairy cell leukemia, head & neck cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, kidney cancer, liver cancer, lung cancer (small and/or non-small cell), malignant peritoneal effusion, malignant pleural effusion, melanoma,
35 mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, neuroblastoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, osteosarcoma, ovarian cancer, ovary (germ cell) cancer, prostate cancer, pancreatic cancer, penile cancer, retinoblastoma, skin cancer, soft tissue sarcoma, squamous cell

carcinomas, stomach cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid cancer, trophoblastic neoplasms, uterine cancer, vaginal cancer, cancer of the vulva and Wilm's tumor.

Hence, the compounds of the present invention can be used as "radiosensitizer" and/or
5 "chemosensitizer".

Radiosensitizers are known to increase the sensitivity of cancerous cells to the toxic effects of ionizing radiation. Several mechanisms for the mode of action of radiosensitizers have been suggested in the literature including: hypoxic cell
10 radiosensitizers (e.g., 2-nitroimidazole compounds, and benzotriazine dioxide compounds) mimicking oxygen or alternatively behave like bioreductive agents under hypoxia; non-hypoxic cell radiosensitizers (e.g., halogenated pyrimidines) can be analogs of DNA bases and preferentially incorporate into the DNA of cancer cells and thereby promote the radiation-induced breaking of DNA molecules and/or prevent the
15 normal DNA repair mechanisms; and various other potential mechanisms of action have been hypothesized for radiosensitizers in the treatment of disease.

Many cancer treatment protocols currently employ radiosensitizers in conjunction with radiation of x-rays. Examples of x-ray activated radiosensitizers include, but are not limited to, the following: metronidazole, misonidazole, desmethylmisonidazole,
20 pimonidazole, etanidazole, nimorazole, mitomycin C, RSU 1069, SR 4233, EO9, RB 6145, nicotinamide, 5-bromodeoxyuridine (BUdR), 5-iododeoxyuridine (IUdR), bromodeoxycytidine, fluorodeoxyuridine (FudR), hydroxyurea, cisplatin, and therapeutically effective analogs and derivatives of the same.

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) of cancers employs visible light as the radiation activator
25 of the sensitizing agent. Examples of photodynamic radiosensitizers include the following, but are not limited to: hematoporphyrin derivatives, Photofrin, benzoporphyrin derivatives, tin etioporphyrin, pheorbide-a, bacteriochlorophyll-a, naphthalocyanines, phthalocyanines, zinc phthalocyanine, and therapeutically effective analogs and derivatives of the same.

Radiosensitizers may be administered in conjunction with a therapeutically effective amount of one or more other compounds, including but not limited to: compounds which promote the incorporation of radiosensitizers to the target cells; compounds which control the flow of therapeutics, nutrients, and/or oxygen to the target cells; chemotherapeutic agents which act on the tumor with or without additional radiation;
35 or other therapeutically effective compounds for treating cancer or other disease.

Examples of additional therapeutic agents that may be used in conjunction with radiosensitizers include, but are not limited to: 5-fluorouracil, leucovorin, 5'-amino-5'-deoxythymidine, oxygen, carbogen, red cell transfusions, perfluorocarbons (e.g.,

Fluosol 10 DA), 2,3-DPG, BW12C, calcium channel blockers, pentoxifylline, antiangiogenesis compounds, hydralazine, and LBSO. Examples of chemotherapeutic agents that may be used in conjunction with radiosensitizers include, but are not limited to: adriamycin, camptothecin, carboplatin, cisplatin, daunorubicin, docetaxel, doxorubicin, interferon (alpha, beta, gamma), interleukin 2, irinotecan, paclitaxel, topotecan, and therapeutically effective analogs and derivatives of the same.

Chemosensitizers may be administered in conjunction with a therapeutically effective amount of one or more other compounds, including but not limited to: compounds which promote the incorporation of chemosensitizers to the target cells; compounds which control the flow of therapeutics, nutrients, and/or oxygen to the target cells; chemotherapeutic agents which act on the tumor or other therapeutically effective compounds for treating cancer or other disease. Examples of additional therapeutical agents that may be used in conjunction with chemosensitizers include, but are not limited to : methylating agents, topoisomerase I inhibitors and other chemotherapeutic agents such as cisplatin and bleomycin.

The compounds of formula (I) and the compounds of formula (VII-a) can also be used to detect or identify the PARP, and more in particular the PARP-1 receptor. For that purpose the compounds can be labeled. Said label can be selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, spin label, antigen label, enzyme label fluorescent group or a chemiluminiscent group.

To prepare the pharmaceutical compositions of this invention, an effective amount of a particular compound, in base or acid addition salt form, as the active ingredient is combined in intimate admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, which carrier may take a wide variety of forms depending on the form of preparation desired for administration. These pharmaceutical compositions are desirably in unitary dosage form suitable, preferably, for administration orally, rectally, percutaneously, or by parenteral injection. For example, in preparing the compositions in oral dosage form, any of the usual pharmaceutical media may be employed, such as, for example, water, glycols, oils, alcohols and the like in the case of oral liquid preparations such as suspensions, syrups, elixirs and solutions; or solid carriers such as starches, sugars, kaolin, lubricants, binders, disintegrating agents and the like in the case of powders, pills, capsules and tablets. Because of their ease in administration, tablets and capsules represent the most advantageous oral dosage unit form, in which case solid pharmaceutical carriers are obviously employed. For parenteral compositions, the carrier will usually comprise sterile water, at least in large part, though other

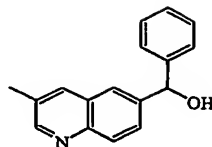
ingredients, to aid solubility for example, may be included. Injectable solutions, for example, may be prepared in which the carrier comprises saline solution, glucose solution or a mixture of saline and glucose solution. Injectable suspensions may also be prepared in which case appropriate liquid carriers, suspending agents and the like may be employed. In the compositions suitable for percutaneous administration, the carrier optionally comprises a penetration enhancing agent and/or a suitable wetting agent, optionally combined with suitable additives of any nature in minor proportions, which additives do not cause a significant deleterious effect to the skin. Said additives may facilitate the administration to the skin and/or may be helpful for preparing the desired compositions. These compositions may be administered in various ways, e.g., as a transdermal patch, as a spot-on, as an ointment. It is especially advantageous to formulate the aforementioned pharmaceutical compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used in the specification and claims herein refers to physically discrete units suitable as unitary dosages, each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active ingredient calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. Examples of such dosage unit forms are tablets (including scored or coated tablets), capsules, pills, powder packets, wafers, injectable solutions or suspensions, teaspoonfuls, tablespoonfuls and the like, and segregated multiples thereof.

Those skilled in the art could easily determine the effective amount from the test results presented hereinafter. In general it is contemplated that an effective amount would be from 0.001 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg body weight, and in particular from 0.005 mg/kg to 10 mg/kg body weight. It may be appropriate to administer the required dose as two, three, four or more sub-doses at appropriate intervals throughout the day. Said sub-doses may be formulated as unit dosage forms, for example, containing 0.05 to 500 mg, and in particular 0.1 mg to 200 mg of active ingredient per unit dosage form.

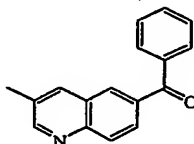
The following examples illustrate the present invention.

Experimental part

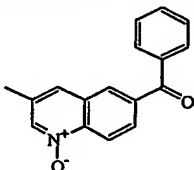
Hereinafter, "BuLi" is defined as butyl-lithium, "MeOH" is defined as methanol, "DIPE" is defined as diisopropyl ether, "DMF" is defined as *N,N*-dimethylformamide, "DCM" is defined as dichloromethane, "DMSO" is defined as dimethylsulfoxide, "EtOAc" is defined as ethyl acetate, "THF" is defined as tetrahydrofuran, "MEK" is defined as methyl ethyl ketone.

A. Preparation of the intermediate compoundsExample A1a) Preparation of intermediate 1

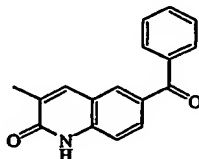
- A solution of bromo-benzene (0.316 mol) in diethyl ether was added dropwise to a solution of Mg turnings (0.316 mol) in diethyl ether at room temperature and the mixture was stirred for 1h30min. The mixture was cooled to 0°C, 3-methyl-6-quinolinecarboxaldehyde (0.263 mol) in THF (200ml) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 2h. The mixture was poured into a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue (65.65g) was crystallized from DIPE. The product was used without further purification, yielding 45.92g (70%) of intermediate 1.

b) Preparation of intermediate 2

- Potassium permanganate (0.24 mol) was added portionwise to a solution of intermediate 1 (0.16 mol) in DCM (300ml) and triethanolamine tris(2-methoxyethyl) ether (5ml) and the mixture was stirred for 2h. The mixture was filtered through celite and evaporated till dryness, yielding 35g (88%) of intermediate 2.

c) Preparation of intermediate 3

- A solution of intermediate 2 (0.142 mol) in DCM (200ml) was added dropwise to a solution of 3-chloro-benzenecarboxylic acid (0.283 mol) in DCM at room temperature and the mixture was stirred for 12h. The mixture was poured into water, basified with potassium carbonate and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness, yielding 32.68g (87%) of intermediate 3.

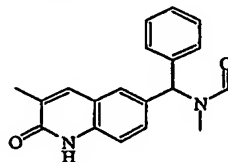
d) Preparation of intermediate 4

Tosyl chloride (0.145 mol) was added portionwise to a mixture of intermediate 3 (0.121 mol) in DCM (300ml) and potassium carbonate 10% (665ml) and the mixture was

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stirred for 1h30min. DCM and water were added, the mixture was filtered through celite and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue (36.43g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : DCM/MeOH 98/2). The pure fractions were collected and
5 evaporated. The residue (4.09g) was crystallized from 2-propanone, yielding 1.67g (5%) of intermediate 4, melting point 264.6°C .

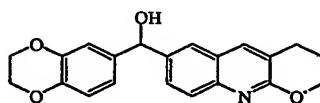
e) Preparation of intermediate 5



A mixture of intermediate 4 (0.037 mol) and *N*-methyl-formamide (1.85 mol) in formic acid (15ml) was stirred and heated at 160°C for 48h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into ice water, basified with potassium carbonate 10% and
10 extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was crystallized from diethyl ether. A part (3g) of the residue (7g) was recrystallized from DCM/diethyl ether, yielding 2.15g of intermediate 5, melting point 189.8°C .

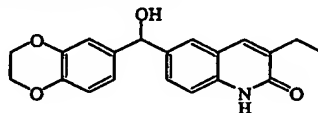
15 Example A2

a) Preparation of intermediate 6

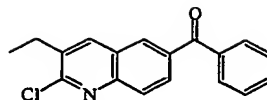


*n*BuLi 1.6M in hexane (0.0382 mol) was added dropwise at -60°C under N_2 flow to a mixture of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxy- quinoline (0.03 mol) in THF (50ml). The mixture was stirred at -60°C for 1 hour. A solution of 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-carboxaldehyde (0.0361 mol) in THF (50ml) was added dropwise. The mixture was
20 stirred at -60°C for 2 hours, then at -40°C for 1 hour, poured out into water and ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The product was used without further purification, yielding 10.56g of intermediate 6.

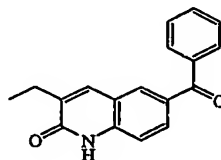
b) Preparation of intermediate 7



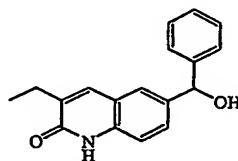
A mixture of intermediate 6 (0.0398 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (100ml) and THF
25 (20ml) was stirred at 60°C for 12 hours, then poured out into ice water and ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was taken up in 2-propanone and DIPE, filtered off and dried, yielding 6.2g (47%) of intermediate 7, melting point 232°C .

Example A3a) Preparation of intermediate 8

- nBuLi 1.6M (0.102 mol) was added dropwise at -78°C to a solution of 6-bromo-2-chloro-3-ethyl-quinoline (0.085 mol) in THF (200ml) under N_2 flow. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 1 hour. A solution of *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl- benzamide (0.085 mol) in THF (50ml) was added dropwise at -78°C . The mixture was stirred from -78°C to 0°C for 2H30 min, hydrolysed with water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered, and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: cyclohexane/EtOAc 93/7). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (7.5g, 30%) was crystallized from 2-propanone. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 7.15g (28%) of intermediate 8, melting point 94°C .

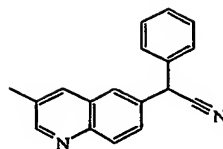
b) Preparation of intermediate 9

- A mixture of intermediate 8 (0.169 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (250ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered off. The precipitate was washed with water, then with 2-propanone and then with diethyl ether. The product was used without further purification, yielding 26g (55%) of intermediate 9.

c) Preparation of intermediate 10

- Sodium hydroborate (0.018 mol) was added portionwise at 0°C under N_2 to a solution of intermediate 9 (0.018 mol) in MeOH (100ml), the mixture was stirred at 5°C for 1h and then at room temperature for 1h. The mixture was poured into ice water and filtered off. The precipitate was washed with 2-propanone and diethyl ether and it was recrystallized from 2-propanone/MeOH, yielding 2.6g (52%) of intermediate 10, melting point 235.7°C .

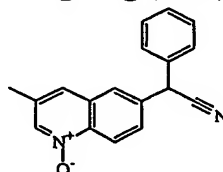
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Example A4a) Preparation of intermediate 11

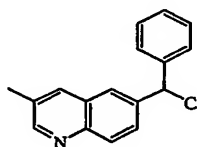
2-methyl-2-propanol, potassium salt (0.21 mol) and then MeOH (10.5ml) were added at 0°C to a solution of tosylmethyl isocyanide (0.085 mol) in DMSO (300ml).

Intermediate 2 (0.06 mol) was added at 5°C and the mixture was stirred at 5°C for 1h.

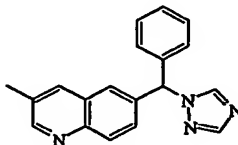
- 5 The mixture was poured into ice water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was washed with a hydrochloric acid 3N solution and evaporated till dryness. The residue was recrystallized from diethyl ether, yielding 6.3g (40%) of intermediate 11.

b) Preparation of intermediate 12

- 10 A solution of 3-chloro-benzenecarboperoxoic acid (0.048 mol) in DCM was added at 0°C to a solution of intermediate 11 (0.024 mol) in DCM and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12h. The mixture was washed with potassium carbonate 10% and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated, yielding 6.28g (94%) of intermediate 12.

Example A5a) Preparation of intermediate 13

- 15 A solution of intermediate 1 (0.08 mol) in DCM (300ml) was cooled till 0°C. Thionyl chloride (0.4 mol) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12h. The mixture was poured into ice water, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The product was used without further purification, yielding
- 20 21.5g of intermediate 13.

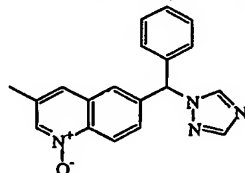
b) Preparation of intermediate 14

A mixture of intermediate 13 (0.08 mol), 1-*H*-1,2,4-triazole (0.24 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.24 mol) in acetonitrile (200ml) was stirred and heated at 80°C for 48h. The mixture was poured into water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was

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dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue (25.22g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : DCM/MeOH 97/3). The pure fractions were collected and evaporated, yielding 14.3g (60%) of intermediate 14.

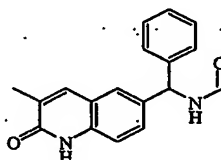
c) Preparation of intermediate 15



- 5 A solution of intermediate 14 (0.043 mol) and 3-chloro-benzenecarboxylic acid (0.086 mol) in DCM (150ml) was stirred at room temperature for 12h. The mixture was poured into water, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The product was used without further purification, yielding 14g of intermediate 15.

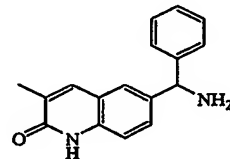
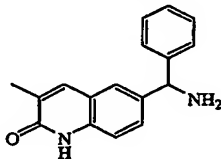
10 Example A6

a) Preparation of intermediate 16



- 15 A mixture of intermediate 4 (0.076 mol) in formamide (300ml) and formic acid (100ml) was stirred at 160°C for a weekend and poured out into ice water. The precipitate was filtered, rinsed with water then with diethyl ether and dried. The residue was crystallized from DCM/MeOH. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 14.5g (65%) of intermediate 16, melting point >260°C.

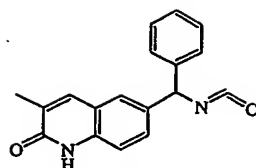
b) Preparation of intermediate 17 and 18



intermediate 17 and .HCl (1:1) intermediate 18

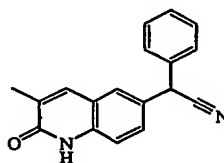
- 20 A mixture of intermediate 16 (0.044 mol) in hydrochloric acid 6N (290ml) was stirred at 100°C for 4 hours and 30 minutes, then brought to room temperature. The precipitate was filtered, washed with water, then with diethyl ether and dried, yielding 13.5g (100%) of intermediate 18 as a monohydrochloride salt, melting point >260°C. Part of this fraction (11.8g) was basified with sodium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 9.95g of intermediate 17.

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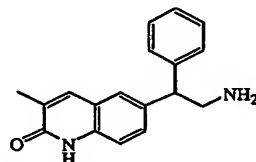
Example A7Preparation of intermediate 19

A mixture of 1,1'-carbonylbis-1*H*-imidazole (0.0794 mol) in THF (100ml) was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. A mixture of intermediate 18 (0.0265 mol) in THF (100ml) was added slowly. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours.

- 5 The product was used without further purification, yielding 7.7g (100%) of intermediate 19.

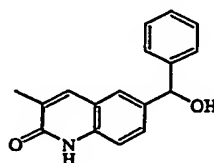
Example A8a) Preparation of intermediate 20

- 10 A mixture of intermediate 12 (0.022 mol) and tosyl chloride (0.033 mol) in potassium carbonate 10% (100ml) and DCM (100ml) was stirred at room temperature for 1h. The mixture was extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was recrystallized from diethyl ether, yielding 5g (84%) of intermediate 20, melting point 227.5°C.

b) Preparation of intermediate 21

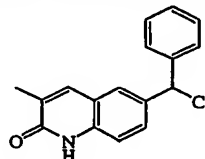
- 15 Intermediate 20 (0.015 mol) in MeOH/NH₃ 7N (100ml) was hydrogenated with Raney Nickel (4g) as a catalyst at room temperature over a 6h period under a 3 bar pressure and the flask was flushed with N₂. After uptake of H₂ (2eq), the catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 90/10/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and evaporated, yielding 3g (73%) of intermediate 21.

20

Example A9a) Preparation of intermediate 22

Sodium hydroborate (0.15 mol) was added portionwise at 5°C under N₂ to a mixture of intermediate 4 (0.075 mol) in MeOH (500ml) and THF (500ml). The mixture was stirred at 5°C for 1h and then at room temperature for 1h. The mixture was poured into ice and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. A part (3g) of the residue (36.82g, 92%) was recrystallized from diethyl ether and THF, yielding 2g of intermediate 22, melting point 237.7°C.

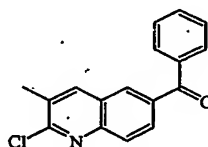
b) Preparation of intermediate 23



Thionyl chloride (10ml) was added dropwise to a solution of intermediate 22 (0.0162 mol) in DCM (200ml) at 0°C. When the addition was complete, the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12h. The mixture was evaporated in vacuo and the product was used without further purification, yielding 4.6g (100%) of intermediate 23.

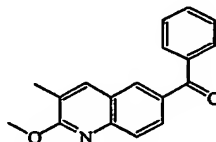
Example A10

a) Preparation of intermediate 24



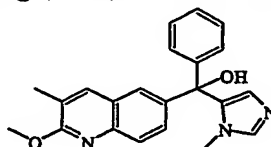
A mixture of intermediate 4 (0.076 mol) in phosphoryl chloride (60ml) was stirred at 60°C for 5h. The mixture was evaporated till dryness, the residue was taken up in ice, basified with NaHCO₃ and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The product was used without further purification, yielding 18g (86%) of intermediate 24.

b) Preparation of intermediate 25



Sodium methylate (0.16 mol) was added to a solution of intermediate 24 (0.035 mol) in MeOH (100ml) and the mixture was stirred and refluxed for 5h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into ice water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was crystallized from diethyl ether, yielding 7g (72%) of intermediate 25.

c) Preparation of intermediate 26

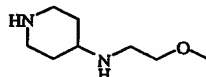


-40-

- n-BuLi (0.0539 mol) was added slowly at -70°C under N_2 flow to a solution of 1-methyl- 1*H*-imidazole (0.0539 mol) in THF (80ml). The mixture was stirred at -70°C for 30 min. Chlorotriethyl- silane (0.0539 mol) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and then cooled to -70°C . n-BuLi (0.0539 mol) was added slowly. The mixture was stirred at -70°C for 1 hour, then allowed to warm to -15°C and cooled to -70°C . A solution of intermediate 25 (0.0414 mol) in THF (50ml) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and then stirred at room temperature overnight. Water was added. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated.
- 10 The residue (28g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (20-45 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 96.5/3.5/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 9.7g (65%) of intermediate 26.

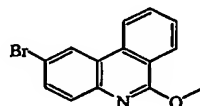
Example A11

a) Preparation of intermediate 27



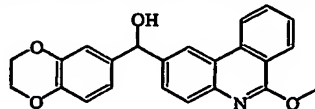
- 15 A mixture of *N*-(2-methoxyethyl)-1-(phenylmethyl)- 4-piperidinamine (0.0402 mol) in ethanol (100ml) was hydrogenated at 40°C for 2 hours in a and then at room temperature under a 3 bar pressure for 3 hours with Pd/C 10% (1g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H_2 (1 equiv), the catalyst was filtered through celite, washed with ethanol and the filtrate was evaporated. The product was used without further purification, yielding
- 20 6.5g (99%) of intermediate 27.

b) Preparation of intermediate 28



- Sodium methylate 30% in MeOH (138ml) was added to a mixture of 2-bromo-6-chloro- phenanthridine (0.124 mol) in MeOH (413ml). The mixture was stirred and refluxed overnight, then poured out on ice and extracted with DCM. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. The filtrate was dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was
- 25 evaporated. The residue (19.7g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (20-45 μm) (eluent: DCM/cyclohexane 30/70). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 9.6g (27%) of intermediate 28.

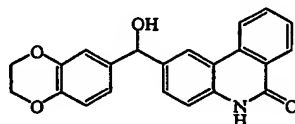
c) Preparation of intermediate 29



nBuLi 1.6M (0.028 mol) was added dropwise at -78°C under N_2 flow to a mixture of intermediate 28 (0.014 mol) in THF (40ml). The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 1

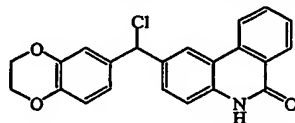
hour. A mixture of 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-carboxaldehyde (0.0305 mol) in THF (40ml) was added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 1 hour, hydrolyzed and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (11.2g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: cyclohexane/EtOAc 70/30). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding: 4g (77%) of intermediate 29.

d) Preparation of intermediate 30



A mixture of intermediate 29 (0.0107 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (40ml) and THF (10ml) was stirred and refluxed overnight and poured out into water. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 3.7g (97%) of intermediate 30.

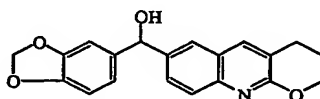
e) Preparation of intermediate 31



Thionyl chloride (10ml) was added at room temperature to a mixture of intermediate 30 (0.0028 mol) in DCM (10ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solvent was evaporated till dryness. The product was used without further purification, yielding 1.3g (quant.) of intermediate 31.

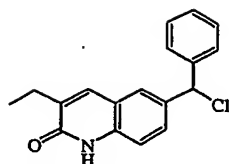
Example A12

Preparation of intermediate 32

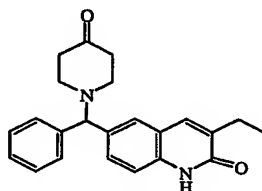


nBuLi 1.6M (0.0451 mol) was added slowly at -78°C under N_2 flow to a solution of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxyquinoline (0.0376 mol) in THF (200ml). The mixture was stirred for 90 min and cooled again to -78°C . A mixture of piperonylaldehyde (0.0376 mol) in THF (100ml) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 2 hours, poured out into water and ammonium chloride and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (14.9g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH 99/1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 1g of intermediate 32, melting point 116°C .

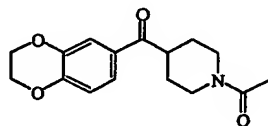
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Example A13a) Preparation of intermediate 33

Thionyl chloride (0.069 mol) was added dropwise at 10°C under N₂ to a solution of intermediate 10 (0.0183 mol) in DCM (50ml) and the mixture was stirred at 10°C for 1h and at room temperature overnight. The mixture was evaporated and the residue was taken up in DCM. The mixture was alkalized with potassium carbonate 10% and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated, yielding 5.10g (94%) of intermediate 33.

b) Preparation of intermediate 34

A mixture of 4,4-piperidinediol, hydrochloride (0.1974 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.396 mol) in DMF (150ml) was stirred at 40°C under N₂ flow for 15 min and then added quickly at 40°C under N₂ flow to a solution of intermediate 33 (0.0987 mol) in DMF (150ml). The mixture was stirred under N₂ flow for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue was taken up in water and DCM, washed with hydrochloric acid 3N and decanted. The aqueous layer was basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The combined organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (17g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/25/0.5). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from 2-propanone/DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 3.2g of intermediate 34.

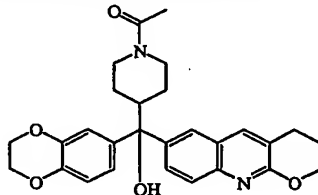
Example A14a) Preparation of intermediate 35

1-acetyl- 4-piperidinecarbonyl chloride (0.1227 mol) was added slowly at 5°C to a mixture of aluminum chloride (0.2699 mol) in 1,2-dichloro- ethane (25ml). The mixture was heated to 65°C. 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin (0.18405 mol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 65°C for 15 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out into water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (44.44g) was purified

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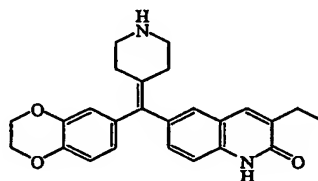
by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH 97.5/2.5). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. Part (0.2g) of the residue (27g, 76%) was crystallized from MEK and DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding intermediate 35, melting point 102°C.

b) Preparation of intermediate 36



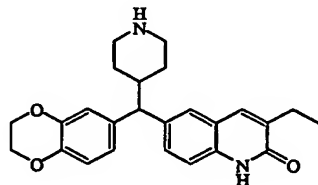
- 5 nBuLi 1.6M in hexane (0.09 mol) was added slowly at -78°C under N_2 flow to a solution of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxy-quinoline (0.075 mol) in THF (200ml). The mixture was stirred for 1 hour. A mixture of intermediate 35 (0.075 mol) in THF (100ml) was added dropwise at -78°C . The mixture was stirred at -30°C for 2 hours, poured out into water and ammonium chloride and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (37.1g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 97/3/0.15). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.8g of intermediate 36, melting point 114°C.

c) Preparation of intermediate 37



- A mixture of intermediate 36 (0.0504 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (400ml) and THF (200ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12 hours, then poured out into ice water, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 90/10/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 7.45g (37%) of intermediate 37, melting point 249°C.

d) Preparation of intermediate 38

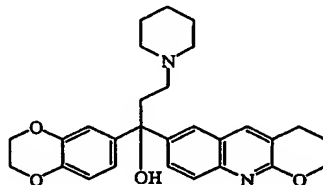


- A mixture of intermediate 37 (0.015 mol) in MeOH (100 ml) was hydrogenated at 50°C under 20 bar pressure for 15 hours with Pd/C 10% (1.3 g) as a catalyst. After uptake of

H₂, the catalyst was filtered off. Hydrogenation was continued. After uptake of H₂, the catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated till dryness. The residue (5.4 g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μ m) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 85/15/1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 3.5 g (54%) of intermediate 38.

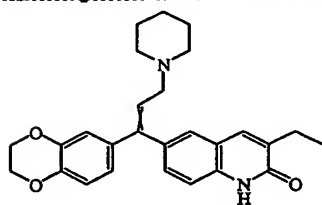
Example A15

a) Preparation of intermediate 39

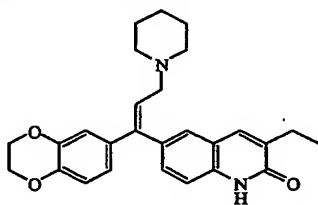


nBuLi 1.6M (0.02986 mol) was added at -78°C under N₂ flow to a solution of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxy-quinoline (0.02488 mol) in THF (120ml). The mixture was stirred at -30°C for 1 hour and cooled again to -70°C . A mixture of 1-(2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)-3-(1-piperidinyl)-1-propanone (0.02488 mol) in THF (60ml) was added slowly. The mixture was stirred at -70°C for 1 hour, poured out into water and ammonium chloride and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (14.92g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μ m) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 94/6/0.1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 7.2g (63%) of intermediate 39.

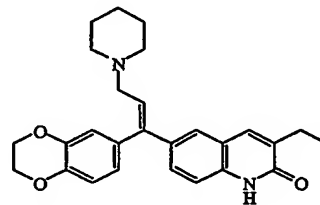
b) Preparation of intermediate 40, 41 and 42



intermediate 40
(mixture of E' + Z isomers)



intermediate 41
(E isomer)



intermediate 42
(Z isomer)

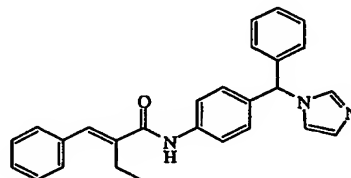
A mixture of intermediate 39 (0.0123 mol) in hydrochloric acid 6N (95ml) and THF (38ml) was stirred and refluxed for 15 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out on ice, basified with a concentrated ammonium hydroxide solution and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (13.6g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μ m) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 94/6/0.5). Three desired fractions were collected and their solvents were evaporated, yielding 2.1g F1 (E isomer), 2g F2 (Z isomer) and 0.67 g of intermediate 40 (mixture of E+Z isomers).

-45-

Both F1 and F2 fractions were crystallized from 2-propanone. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.7g of intermediate 41 (E) and 0.7g of intermediate 42 (Z).

5 Example A16

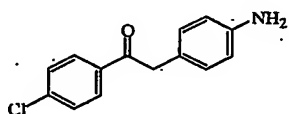
Preparation of intermediate 43



- α -ethyl- cinnamoyl chloride (0.107 mol) was added at 0°C to a solution of 4-(1H-imidazol-1-ylphenylmethyl)- benzenamine (0.089 mol) in pyridine (20ml) and DCM (150ml) and the mixture was stirred for 4h. The mixture was evaporated till dryness, the residue was basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The product was used without further purification, yielding intermediate 43.

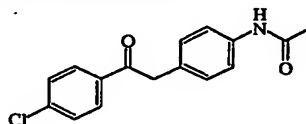
Example A17

a) Preparation of intermediate 44



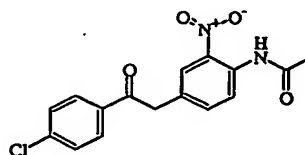
- To a solution of 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-nitrophenyl)- ethanone (0.09064 mol) in MeOH (500 ml), Raney Nickel (25 g) was added. The mixture was stirred under reduced pressure (3 bar) for 30 minutes. Then the hot reaction mixture was filtered off. The solvent was evaporated, yielding intermediate 44.

b) Preparation of intermediate 45



- To a solution of intermediate 44 (0.252 mol) in DCM (600 ml), acetic acid, anhydride (71.5 ml) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. Then the mixture was poured on ice water, neutralized with concentrated ammonium hydroxide decanted, washed, dried. and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 72g (99%) of intermediate 45, melting point 190°C.

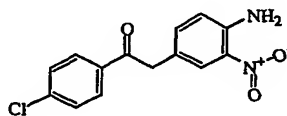
c) Preparation of intermediate 46



-46-

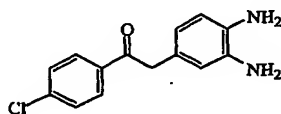
To a mixture of intermediate 45 (0.25 mol) in acetic acid, anhydride (500 ml) at room temperature, nitric acid (fuming) (39.6ml) was added portionwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour. Then the mixture was poured on ice water, neutralized with concentrated ammonium hydroxide, filtered off, washed with MEK and dried, yielding 5 47g (56.5%) of intermediate 46, melting point 145°C.

d) Preparation of intermediate 47



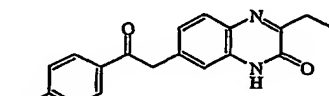
A mixture of intermediate 46 (0.1202 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (100ml) and THF (300ml) was stirred at 60°C for 12 hours, poured out into water and extracted three times with DCM (3x80ml). The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered 10 and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 34g (97%) of intermediate 47, melting point 112°C.

e) Preparation of intermediate 48

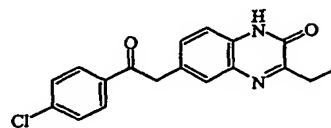


A mixture of intermediate 47 (0.0103 mol) in MeOH (350ml) was hydrogenated at room temperature under a 3 bar pressure for 90 min with Raney Nickel (34g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H₂ (3 equiv), the catalyst was filtered through celite, washed 15 with MeOH and the filtrate was evaporated, yielding 23g (75%) of intermediate 48, melting point 128°C.

f) Preparation of intermediates 49 and 50

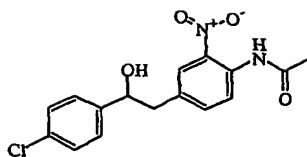


intermediate 49

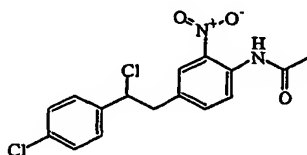


intermediate 50

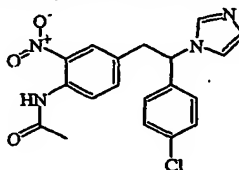
A mixture of intermediate 48 (0.0882 mol) in water (160ml) was stirred at 0°C. A solution of 2-oxo-butanoic acid (0.112 mol) in acetic acid (70ml) was added portionwise at 0°C. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, then stirred 20 at room temperature for 12 hours, poured out into water and sodium hydroxide 3N and extracted with DCM and MeOH. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (33g) was dissolved in DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1. A precipitate was filtered off (*) and crystallized twice from MeOH and DCM. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.64g (3%) 25 of intermediate 49, melting point 228°C. (*) The filtrate was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (20-45 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from 2-propanone and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 1.5g (5%) of intermediate 50, melting point 236°C.

Example A18a) Preparation of intermediate 51

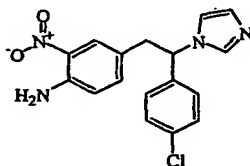
To a solution of intermediate 46 (0.141 mol) in MeOH (500 ml) cooled to 10°C, sodium hydroborate (0.0141 mol) was added portionwise. Then water was added and the precipitate filtered off, washed and dried, yielding 44g of (93.2%) of intermediate 51.

b) Preparation of intermediate 52

To a solution of intermediate 51 (0.131 mol) in DCM (400 mL), triethylamine (36.6 ml) was added. The mixture was cooled to 0°C. Then methanesulfonyl chloride (20.35 ml) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. Then the mixture was poured into ice water, decanted, washed, dried (MgSO₄) and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 58g (100%) of intermediate 52.

c) Preparation of intermediate 53

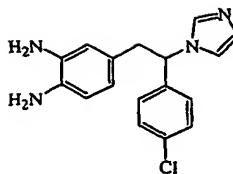
A mixture of intermediate 52 (0.131 mol) in acetonitrile (400ml), 1H-imidazole (0.658 mol) and potassium carbonate (89.06g) was stirred at 80°C overnight. The solvent was evaporated till dryness and then the residue was taken up in DCM, decanted, washed, dried and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (35g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH 98/2) yielding 13g (27.6%) of intermediate 53, melting point 131°C.

d) Preparation of intermediate 54

A mixture of intermediate 53 (0.0352 mol) in sodium hydroxide 2N (130 ml) and ethanol (13 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours, then the reaction mixture was neutralised with hydrochloric acid and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallised from DIPE/2-propanone and the resulting precipitate was collected, yielding 10g (82.8 %) of intermediate 54, melting point 153°C.

-48-

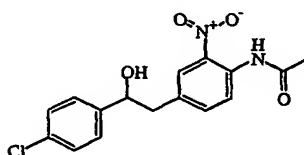
e) Preparation of intermediate 55



A mixture of intermediate 54 (0.0292 mol) in MeOH (100 ml) was hydrogenated at room temperature for 1 hour with Raney Nickel (10 g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H₂ (3 equiv.), the solution was filtered over a celite path and the solvent was evaporated (vac.), yielding 9.1g of intermediate 55 (used as such in the next reaction step without further purification).

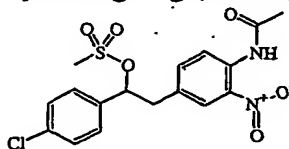
Example A19

a) Preparation of intermediate 56



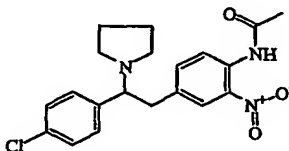
To a solution of intermediate 46 (0.141 mol) in MeOH (500ml) cooled to 10°C, sodium hydroborate (0.0141 mol) was added portionwise. Then water was added and the precipitate filtered off, washed and dried, yielding 44g (93.2%) of intermediate 56.

b) Preparation of intermediate 57



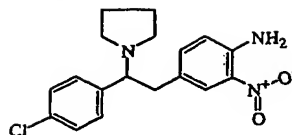
Methylsulfonyl chloride (0.048 mol) was added slowly at 0°C to a solution of intermediate 56 (0.0239 mol) and triethylamine (0.048 mol) in DCM (80ml). The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over a 4-hour period. The solvent was evaporated till dryness. The product was used without further purification, yielding intermediate 57.

c) Preparation of intermediate 58

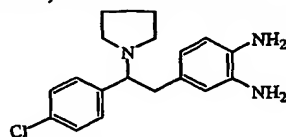


A mixture of intermediate 57 (0.0291 mol), pyrrolidine (0.0871 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.0868 mol) in acetonitrile (150ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12 hours, then cooled, filtered, washed with acetonitrile, filtered again and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue was taken up in DCM and water. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (12g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 99/1/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 1.7g (15%) of intermediate 58.

-49-

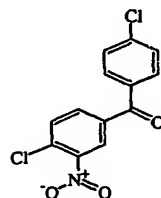
d) Preparation of intermediate 59

A mixture of intermediate 58 (0.00438 mol) in sodium hydroxide 3N (80ml) and ethanol (20ml) was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours, poured out into water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 1.2g (80%) of intermediate 59.

e) Preparation of intermediate 60

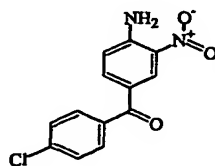
- 5 A mixture of intermediate 59 (0.00347 mol) in MeOH (80ml) was hydrogenated at room temperature under a 3 bar pressure for 30 min with Raney Nickel (1.2g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H_2 (3 equiv), the catalyst was filtered through celite, washed with MeOH and the filtrate was evaporated. The product was used without further purification, yielding 0.98g of intermediate 60.

10

Example A20a) Preparation of intermediate 61

Reaction (I): A mixture of 4-chloro-3-nitro- benzoic acid (0.125 mol) in thionyl chloride (30 ml) and chloroform (60 ml) was stirred and refluxed for 4.5 hours and then the reaction mixture was concentrated to dryness, to give Residue (I).

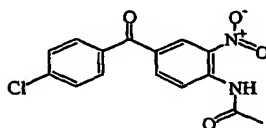
- 15 Reaction (II): Residue (I) was dissolved in chlorobenzene (65 ml) and the resulting solution was added dropwise under cooling (ice-bath) to a stirred suspension of aluminum chloride (0.188 mol) in chlorobenzene (65 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature and poured out into ice-water, then extracted with DCM. The extract was washed with a NaHCO_3 solution. and with water, then dried
- 20 (MgSO_4) and concentrated (vac.) until dryness. The residue was crystallised from 2-propanol and the desired product was collected, yielding 23.7g of intermediate 61, melting point 83.4°C .

b) Preparation of intermediate 62

-50-

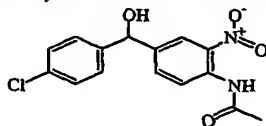
- 5 A mixture of intermediate 61 (0.06 mol) and NH_3 (10 g) in MeOH (180 ml) and thiophane dioxide (20 ml) was heated overnight in a pressure-tube at 120-130°C, then MeOH was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was stirred in a boiling, diluted hydrochloric acid solution. The mixture was cooled and the resulting precipitate was suctioned off, then washed with water and recrystallised from ethanol. Finally, the desired product was collected, yielding 12 g (72.3 %) of intermediate 62, melting point 200.9°C.

c) Preparation of intermediate 63



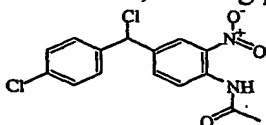
- 10 A mixture of intermediate 62 (0.0686 mol) in DCM (200ml) and acetyl chloride (20 ml) was stirred for 12 hours at room temperature and then the solvent was evaporated dry. The residue was taken up in diethyl ether (50ml), then the desired product was filtered off and dried, yielding 21.6 g (99 %) of intermediate 63, melting point 138°C.

d) Preparation of intermediate 64



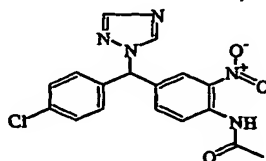
- 15 A mixture of intermediate 63 (0.066 mol) in MeOH (200 ml) was stirred at 0°C and a solution of sodium hydroborate (0.066 mol) in water was added dropwise, then the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was extracted with DCM/MeOH/H₂O and the extract was dried (MgSO₄). Finally the solvent was evaporated and the desired product was collected, yielding 20.4g (97 %) of intermediate 64, melting point 198°C.

e) Preparation of intermediate 65



- 20 In a 3-neck reaction flask (500 ml), equipped with an addition funnel and thermometer, a mixture of intermediate 64 (0.062 mol) and triethylamine (0.125 mol) in DCM (200ml) was cooled to 0°C and methylsulfonyl chloride (0.125 mol) was added dropwise keeping the temperature at 0-5°C, then the reaction mixture was stirred for 4 hours at room temperature and poured out into water (1000 ml). The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 18g (oil, 85 %) of intermediate 65.

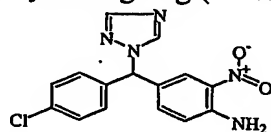
f) Preparation of intermediate 66



- 25 A mixture of intermediate 65 (0.0490 mol), 1H-1,2,4-triazole (0.265 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.267 mol) in acetonitrile (200 ml) was stirred and refluxed for 2

hours, then the solvent was evaporated dry and the residue was partitioned between water and DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by high-performance liquid chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH 98/2). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 14g (71 %) of intermediate 66.

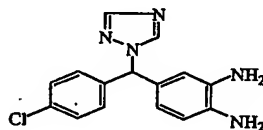
g) Preparation of intermediate 67



A mixture of intermediate 66 (0.0376 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (80ml) was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours and water (200ml) was added, then the reaction mixture was neutralised with potassium carbonate and extracted with DCM/MeOH.

The organic extract was dried (MgSO_4) and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (12g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH 98/2). The product fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 7.2 g (58 %) of intermediate 67.

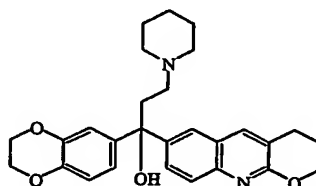
h) Preparation of intermediate 68



15 A mixture of intermediate 67 (0.0218 mol) in MeOH (100 ml) was hydrogenated for 1 hour with Raney Nickel (7 g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H₂ (3 equiv.), the H₂ was flushed with N₂ and the catalyst was filtered over celite. The resulting residue was used as such in the next reaction step, yielding 6.54g of intermediate 68.

Example A21

Preparation of intermediate 69



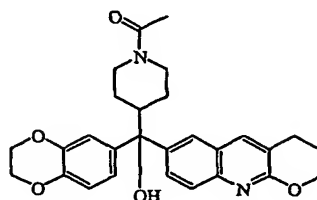
20 nBuLi 1.6M (0.02986 mol) was added at -78°C under N_2 flow to a solution of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxy-quinoline (0.02488 mol) in THF (120ml). The mixture was stirred at -30°C for 1 hour and cooled again to -70°C . A mixture of 1-(2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)-3-(1-piperidiny)-1-propanone (0.02488 mol) in THF (60ml) was added slowly. The mixture was stirred at -70°C for 1 hour, poured out into water and ammonium chloride and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried
25 (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (14.92g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent:

-52-

DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 94/6/0.1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding: 7.2g (63%) of intermediate 69.

Example A22

Preparation of intermediate 70

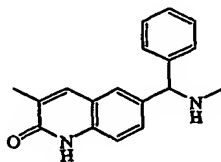


- 5 nBuLi 1.6M in hexane (0.09 mol) was added slowly at -78°C under N₂ flow to a solution of 6-bromo-3-ethyl-2-methoxy-quinoline (0.075 mol) in THF (200ml). The mixture was stirred for 1 hour. A mixture of 1-acetyl-4-[(2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)carbonyl]-piperidine (0.075 mol) in THF (100ml) was added dropwise at -78°C . The mixture was stirred at -30°C for 2 hours, poured out into water and ammonium
- 10 chloride and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (37.1g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.15). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding.
- 15 0.8g of intermediate 70, melting point 114°C .

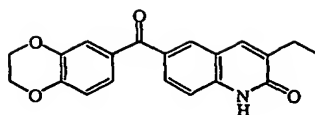
B. Preparation of the final compounds

Example B1

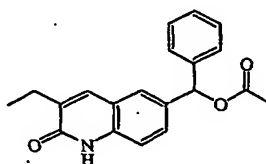
Preparation of compound 1



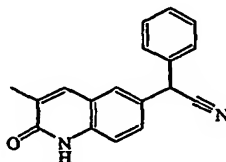
- A mixture of intermediate 5 (0.013 mol) in hydrochloric acid 6N (40ml) and 2-propanol (40ml) was stirred and heated at 80°C for 6h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into ice water, basified with NH₄OH and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent : DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and evaporated. The residue (3.9g) was
- 25 crystallized from EtOAc, yielding 2.47g (27%) of compound 1, melting point 174.3°C .

Example B2Preparation of compound 2

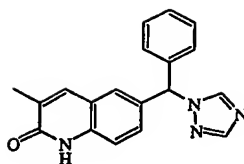
Sulfuric acid (1ml) was added at 0°C to a solution of chromium(VI)oxide (0.01186 mol) in water (2.2ml). The mixture was then added at 0°C to a suspension of intermediate 7 (0.00593 mol) in 2-propanone (40ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours, poured out into an aqueous potassium carbonate 10% solution and extracted with DCM. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with a boiling mixture of DCM and MeOH (50/50). The combined organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue was crystallized from MeOH. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.69g of compound 2, melting point 255°C.

Example B3Preparation of compound 3

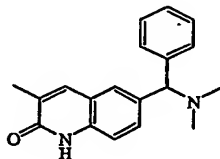
A mixture of intermediate 10 (0.01432 mol) in acetic acid, anhydride (50ml) was stirred at 100°C for 3h. The mixture was poured into ice, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40μm) (eluent : DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from diethyl ether, yielding 1.65g (36%) of compound 3, melting point 168.2°C.

Example B4Preparation of compound 4

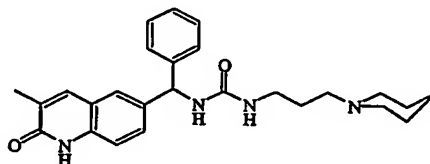
A mixture of intermediate 12 (0.022 mol) and tosyl chloride (0.033 mol) in potassium carbonate 10% (100ml) and DCM (100ml) was stirred at room temperature for 1h. The mixture was extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was recrystallized from diethyl ether, yielding 5g (84%) of compound 4, melting point 227.5°C.

Example B5Preparation of compound 5

A solution of intermediate 15 (0.044 mol) in acetic acid, anhydride (100ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12h. The mixture was evaporated till dryness. The residue was taken up in water, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted in DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue (13.49g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and evaporated. The residue (3g, 22%) was added to a solution of activated carbon and MeOH. The mixture was stirred, filtered through celite and evaporated till dryness. The residue was crystallized from MEK, yielding 1.77g (13%) of compound 5, melting point 254.2°C.

Example B6Preparation of compound 6

Formaldehyde (0.189 mol) and sodium cyanotrihydroborate (0.028 mol) were added to a mixture of intermediate 17 (0.00945 mol) in acetonitrile (50ml). Acetic acid (0.019 mol) was added carefully over a 10 min. period and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3h. The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether and washed with sodium hydroxide 3N. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue was recrystallized from 2-propanone, yielding 1.6g (76%) of compound 6, melting point 226.7°C.

Example B7Preparation of compound 7

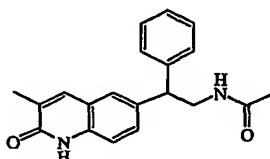
1-piperidinepropanamine (0.0794 mol) was added to a solution of intermediate 19 (0.0265 mol) in THF (200ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. The solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue was washed several times with water and taken up in DCM/MeOH 98/2. The organic solution was dried (MgSO₄),

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filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (4g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (35-70 μ m) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 90/10/1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was washed with diethyl ether and dried. The residue (2.8g) was taken up in potassium carbonate 10% and DCM and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (2.2g) was crystallized from diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 1.85g (16%) of compound 7 as hydrate (1:1).

10 Example B8

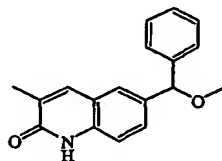
Preparation of compound 8



Acetyl chloride (0.012 mol) in DCM was added at 0°C to a solution of intermediate 21 (0.01 mol) in DCM (52ml) and pyridine (3ml) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2h. Water was added and the product was extracted with DCM. The organic layer was washed with aqueous HCl 1N, then with aqueous potassium carbonate 10%, dried (MgSO₄), filtered off and evaporated. The residue (3.02g) was recrystallized from EtOAc and diethyl ether, yielding 1.7g (51%) of compound 8, melting point 206.2°C.

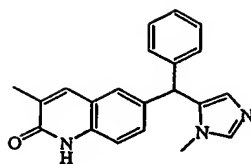
Example B9

Preparation of compound 9

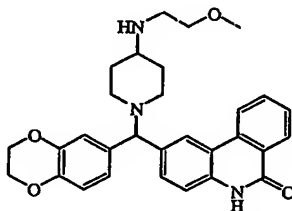


A solution of intermediate 23 (0.0088 mol) in MeOH (50ml) was stirred and refluxed for 4h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was taken up in EtOAc/DCM/MeOH and stirred with activated carbon. The precipitate was filtered through celite and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was recrystallized from DCM/MeOH, yielding 1.5g (62%) of compound 9, melting point 207.3°C.

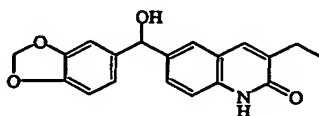
-56-

Example B10Preparation of compound 10. H₂O (1:1)

- Hydrochloric acid 12N (20ml) and tin(II)chloride (0.0888 mol) were added to a mixture of intermediate 26 (0.0148 mol) in acetic acid (80ml). The mixture was stirred at 120°C for 24 hours, poured out into water, basified with ammonium hydroxide, filtered through celite and rinsed with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (4.86g) was crystallized from 2-propanone and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. The residue (4.05g, 83%), was taken up in DCM. The mixture was washed with water and filtered through celite. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (3.46g) was crystallized from 2-propanone and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 2.71g of compound 10 as hydrate (1:1), melting point 240°C.

Example B11Preparation of compound 11

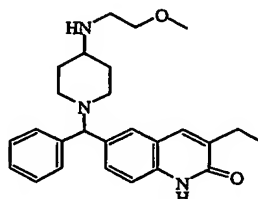
- A mixture of intermediate 31 (0.0028 mol), intermediate 27 (0.0056 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.0084 mol) in acetonitrile (10ml) was stirred at 80°C for 2 hours. Water was added. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (1.1g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm)(eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 94/6/0.2). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (0.6g, 43%) was crystallized from diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.201g (14%) of compound 11, melting point 116°C.

Example B12Preparation of compound 12

A mixture of intermediate 32 (0.0235 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (132ml) and THF (80ml) was stirred and refluxed for 4 hours, cooled to room temperature and poured out into ice water. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with water and with diethyl ether and dried. Part (1g) of the residue (5.7g) was crystallized from 2-propanone. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with diethyl ether and dried, yielding 0.5g of compound 12, melting point 211°C.

Example B13

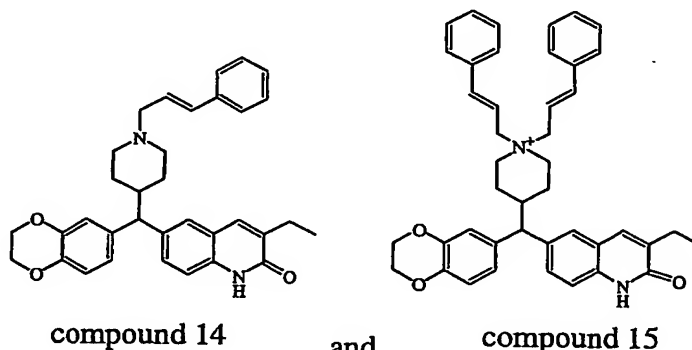
Preparation of compound 13



Sodium cyanotrihydroborate (0.0147 mol) was added portionwise to a solution of intermediate 34 (0.0147 mol) and 2-methoxy-ethanamine (0.0176 mol) in MeOH (80ml), while stirring at 0°C under N₂ flow. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over a 30-min period, then poured out into water and extracted twice with DCM (2x100ml). The combined organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (5g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 95/5/0.3). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was allowed to crystallize out. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. The residue was recrystallized from diethyl ether and petroleum ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 2.1g (34%) of compound 13.

Example B14

Preparation of compound 14 and 15



(E,E) . H₂O (1:1)

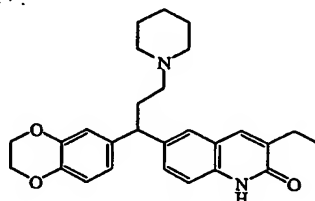
A mixture of intermediate 38 (0.001409 mol), (3-chloro-1-propenyl)-benzene (0.00183 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.00507 mol) in DMF (10 ml) was stirred at 70°C for 15 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out into water and extracted with

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EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (2.95 g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 95/5/0.1 and 80/20/0.5). Two fractions were collected and their solvents were evaporated, yielding 0.24g F1 (33%) and 0.5g F2 (53%). F1 was crystallized from 2-propanone and DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.16 g of compound 14, melting point 107°C. F2 was crystallized from 2-propanone and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. The residue (0.38g) was taken up in HCl (3N). The mixture was extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness, yielding 0.25g of compound 15, melting point 198°C.

Example B15

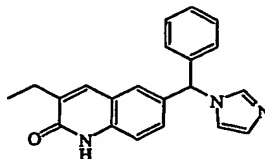
Preparation of compound 16



A mixture of intermediate 40 (0.00836 mol) in MeOH (60ml) was hydrogenated under a 3 bar pressure for 15 hours with Pd/C 10% (0.36g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H_2 (1 equiv); the catalyst was filtered through celite and the filtrate was evaporated till dryness. The residue (3.4g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH). The pure fractions were collected and their solvents were evaporated. The residue (1.8g, 50%) was crystallized from MEK and DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding compound 16, melting point 181°C.

Example B16

Preparation of compound 17

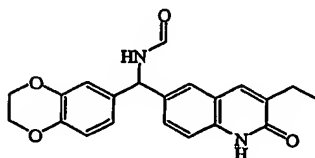


A mixture of intermediate 43 (0.088 mol) and chlorobenzene (1.162 mol) in aluminum chloride (300ml) was stirred at 100°C for 12h. The mixture was poured into ice water, basified with ammonium hydroxide, filtered through celite and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4), filtered off and evaporated till dryness. The residue (49.35g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 97/3/0.2). The pure fractions were collected and evaporated. The residue (4.1g, 14%) and norit in MeOH was stirred at 50°C. The mixture was filtered

through celite and the filtrate was evaporated till dryness. The residue was crystallized from MEK/DIPE/MeOH, yielding 2.58g (9%) of compound 17, melting point 220.1°C.

Example B17

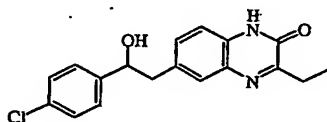
Preparation of compound 18



- 5 A mixture of compound 2 (0.0089 mol) in formic acid (11.3ml) and formamide (3ml) was stirred at 160°C for 15 hours and then cooled to room temperature. Formic acid (11.3ml) and formamide (3ml) were added again. The mixture was stirred at 160°C for 6 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out into ice water and basified with a concentrated ammonium hydroxide solution. DCM was added. The precipitate was
- 10 filtered off and taken up in water and MeOH. The mixture was stirred for 20 min. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 1.55g (48%) of compound 18, melting point >260°C.

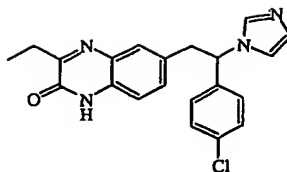
Example B18

Preparation of compound 19

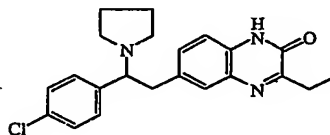


- 15 Sodium tetrahydroborate (0.0292 mol) was added slowly at 0°C under N₂ flow to a suspension of [mixture (0.024 mol) of intermediate 49 (0.012 mol) and intermediate 50 (0.012 mol)] in MeOH (80ml) and THF (80ml). The mixture was stirred for 1 hour, then poured out into water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (7.5g)
- 20 was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/2-propanol/NH₄OH 96/4/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (5g) was separated into its isomers by column chromatography over C 18 (column: HYPERSIL® C 18 10 μm) (eluent: MeOH/H₂O 68/32). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (2g, 25%) was
- 25 crystallized from MeOH. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 2g of compound 19, melting point 204°C.

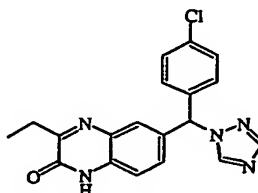
-60-

Example B19Preparation of compound 20

A solution of intermediate 55 (0.02 mol) in water (100 ml) was stirred at 0°C and then a solution of propionylformic acid (0.029 mol) in acetic acid (30 ml) was added dropwise, then the resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours and
5 poured out into ice water. The mixture was neutralised to pH: 7 with sodium hydroxide (3N) and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄) and the solvent was evaporated dry. The oily residue (11 g) was purified by high-performance liquid chromatography over silica gel (eluent: Toluene/2-propanol/NH₄OH 90/10/0.1). The product fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was
10 crystallised from MeOH/DCM and the resulting solids were collected, yielding 1.6 g (15%) of compound 20, melting point 270°C.

Example B20Preparation of compound 21

A mixture of intermediate 60 (0.0031 mol) and 2-oxo-butanoic acid, ethyl ester
15 (0.00622 mol) in MeOH (50ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated. The residue (2g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 95/5/0.5). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from MEK and DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.215g (18%) of compound 21,
20 melting point 194°C.

Example B21Preparation of compound 22

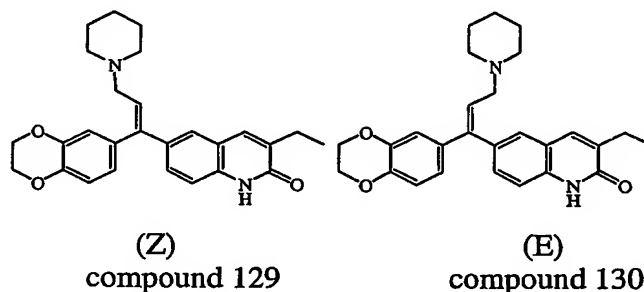
A mixture of propionylformic acid (0.0264 mol) in acetic acid (q.s.) was added dropwise at 0°C to a solution of intermediate 68 (0.0250 mol) in acetic acid (q.s.) and
25 water (80 ml), then the solution was stirred for 2 hours at 0°C and poured out into ice-water. Sodium hydroxide (3N) was added until pH 7 and the resulting solution was

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extracted with DCM/MeOH. The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4) and the solvent was evaporated (vac.). The crude oily residue (12 g) was taken up with MeOH/DCM. The mother layers were evaporated dry and the residue was crystallised from EtOAc/MeOH, finally the desired product was collected, yielding 1.4 g (16 %) of compound 22, melting point 188°C .

Example B22

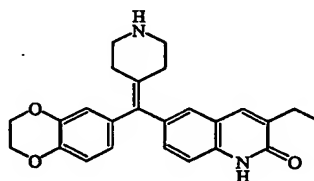
Preparation of compound 129 and 130



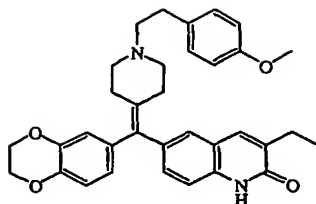
A mixture of intermediate 69 (0.0123 mol) in hydrochloric acid 6N (95ml) and THF (38ml) was stirred and refluxed for 15 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out on ice, basified with a concentrated NH_4OH solution and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (13.6g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-35 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 94/6/0.5). Two desired fractions were collected and their solvents were evaporated. Both fractions were crystallized from 2-propanone. Each precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.7g of compound 130, melting point 170°C and 0.7g of compound 129, melting point 252°C .

Example B23

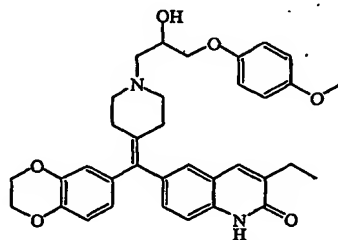
Preparation of compound 131



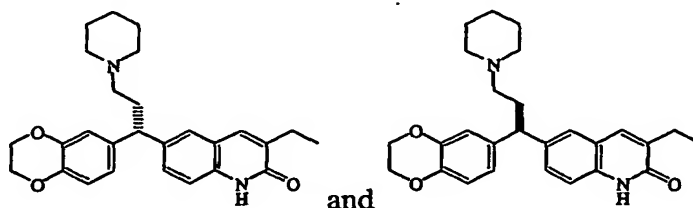
A mixture of intermediate 70 (0.0504 mol) in hydrochloric acid 3N (400ml) and THF (200ml) was stirred and refluxed for 12 hours, then poured out into ice water, basified with ammonium hydroxide and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO_4), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH/ NH_4OH 90/10/0.1). The pure fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 7.45g (37%) of compound 131, melting point 249°C .

Example B24Preparation of compound 132

A mixture of compound 131 (0.00124 mol), 1-(2-bromoethyl)-4-methoxy- benzene (0.00186 mol) and potassium carbonate (0.00657 mol) in DMF (10ml) was stirred at 70°C for 15 hours, cooled to room temperature, poured out into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated till dryness. The residue (2.33g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (15-40 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 97/3/0.1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue (0.37g) was crystallized from 2-propanone and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.24g of compound 132, melting point 203°C.

Example B25Preparation of compound 133

A solution of compound 131 (0.00248 mol) and [(4-methoxyphenoxy)methyl]- oxirane (0.00289 mol) in 2-propanol (15ml) was stirred at 80°C for 12 hours. A solid was filtered off and dried. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (35-70 μm) (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 95/5/0.1). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from methyl ethyl keton and diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.72g (50%) of compound 133, melting point 219°C.

Example B26Preparation of compounds 144 and 145

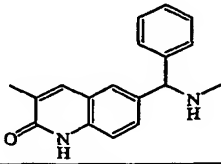
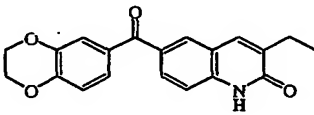
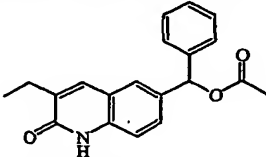
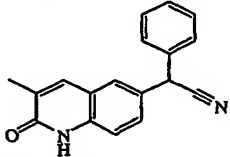
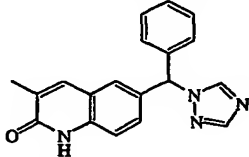
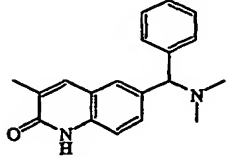
Enantiomer A
compound 144

Enantiomer B
compound 145

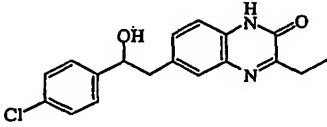
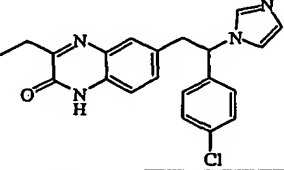
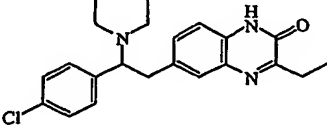
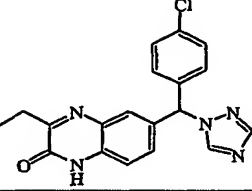
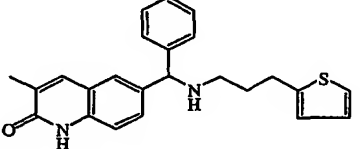
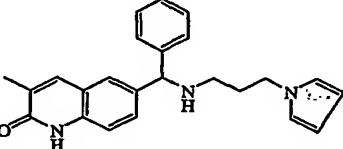
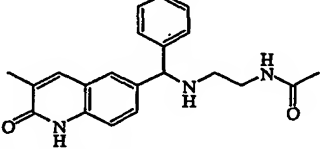
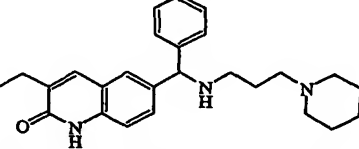
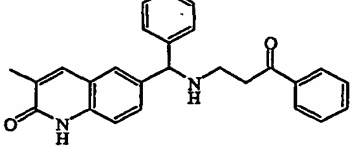
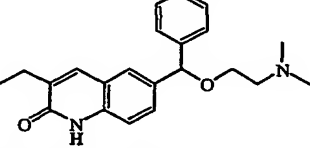
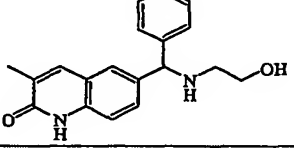
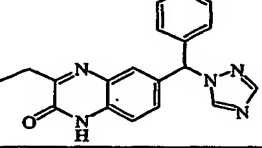
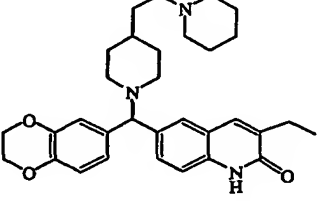
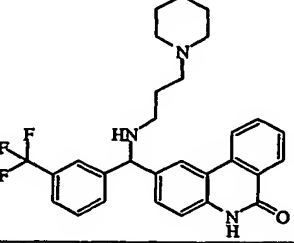
A mixture of intermediate 42 (0.0046 mol) and Pd/C (0.1g) in THF (40ml) was hydrogenated at room temperature for 18 hours under atmosphere pressure, then filtered over celite. The filtrate was evaporated. The residue (2.5g) was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: DCM/MeOH/NH₄OH 95/5/0.5; 15-40μm). Two fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 1.6g F1 and 0.5g F2. F1 was separated into two enantiomers by chiral chromatography (Chiralpak AD: eluent: MeOH 100; 20μm). Two fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, yielding 0.56g F3 and 0.38g F4. F3 was crystallized from 2-propanone/DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.43g (21%) of compound 144 (melting point 159°C) (enantiomer A). F4 was crystallized from 2-propanone/DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off and dried, yielding 0.33g (16%) of compound 145 (melting point 172°C) (enantiomer B).

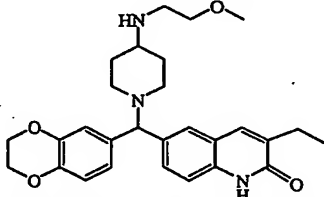
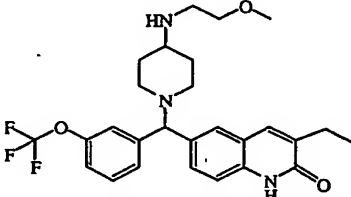
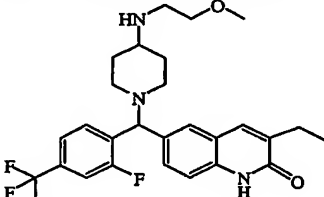
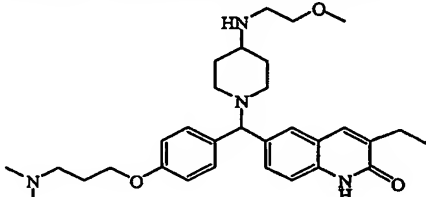
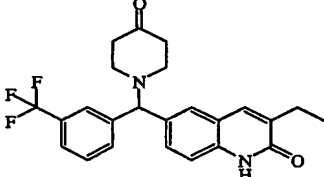
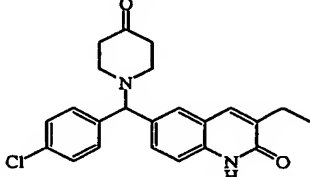
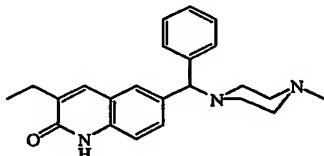
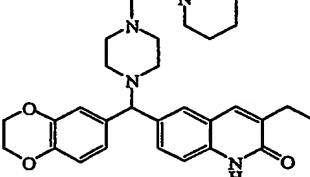
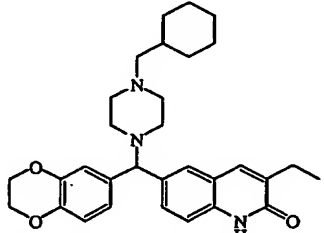
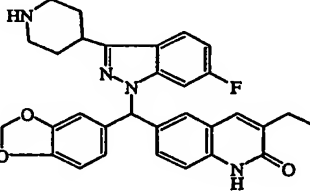
Table-1 lists the compounds that were prepared according to one of the above Examples. The following abbreviations were used in the tables: Co.No. stands for Compound Number, Ex. [Bn°] referred to the same method as described in the Bn° examples.

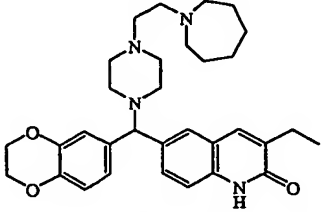
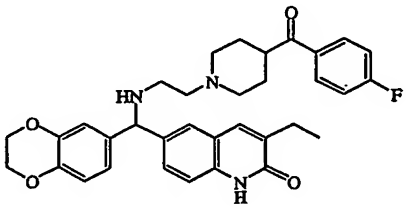
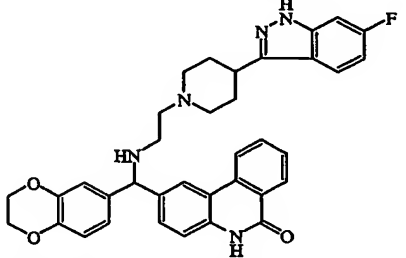
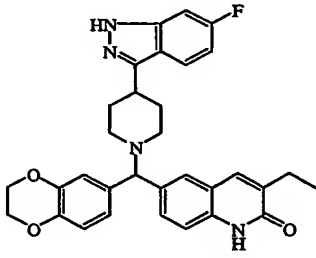
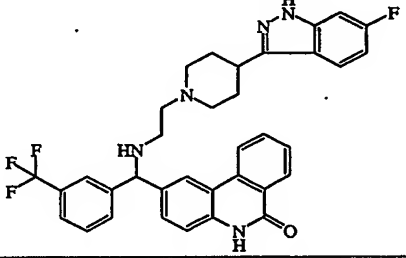
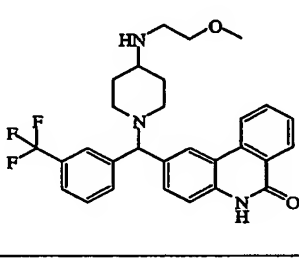
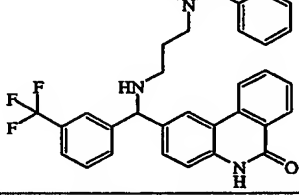
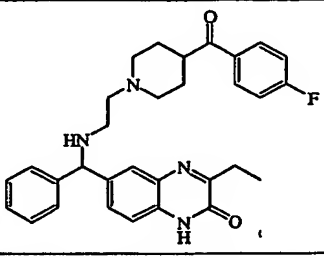
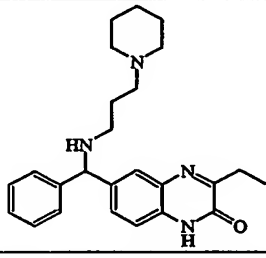
Table-1:

	
Co. No. 1; Ex. [B1]; mp. 174.3°C	Co. No. 2; Ex. [B2]; mp. 255°C
	
Co. No. 3; Ex. [B3]; mp. 168.2°C	Co. No. 4; Ex. [B4]; mp. 227.5°C
	
Co. No. 5; Ex. [B5]; mp. 254.2°C	Co. No. 6; Ex. [B6]; mp. 226.7°C

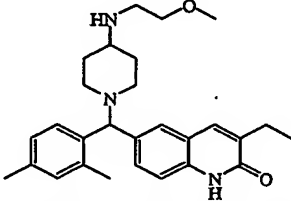
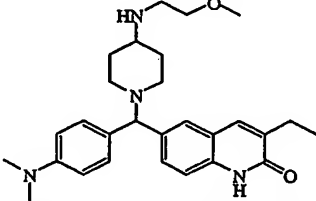
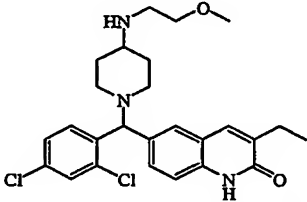
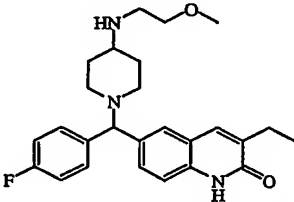
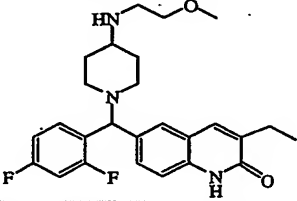
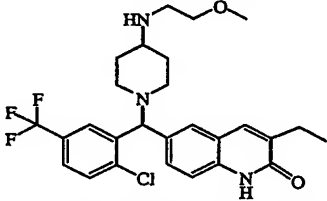
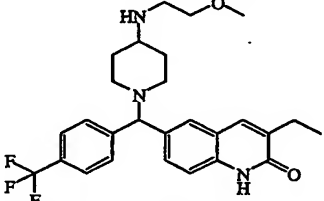
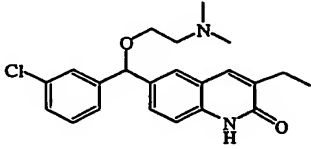
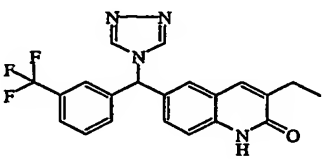
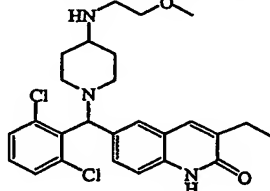
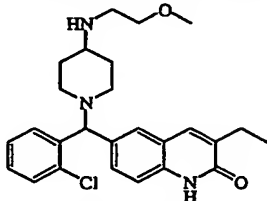
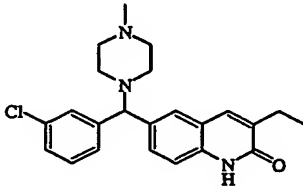
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Co. No. 9; Ex. [B9]; mp. 207.3°C	H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 10; Ex. [B10]; mp. 240°C
Co. No. 11; Ex. [B11]; mp. 116°C	Co. No. 12; Ex. [B12]; mp. 211°C
Co. No. 13; Ex. [B13]	Co. No. 14; Ex. [B14]; mp. 107°C
H ₂ O (1:1) (E,E); Co. No. 15; Ex. [B14]; mp. 198°C	Co. No. 16; Ex. [B15]; mp. 181°C
Co. No. 17; Ex. [B16]; mp. 220.1°C	Co. No. 18; Ex. [B17]; mp. >260°C

	
Co. No. 19; Ex. [B18]; mp. 204°C	Co. No. 20; Ex. [B19]; mp. 270°C
	
Co. No. 21; Ex. [B20]; mp. 194°C	Co. No. 22; Ex. [B21]; mp. 188°C
	
Co. No. 23; Ex. [B11]; mp. 140.7°C	Co. No. 24; Ex. [B11]; mp. 135°C
	
Co. No. 25; Ex. [B11]; mp. 177.3°C	Co. No. 26; Ex. [B11]; mp. 131.2°C
	
Co. No. 27; Ex. [B11]; mp. 183.2°C	Co. No. 28; Ex. [B11]; mp. 117.1°C
	
Co. No. 29; Ex. [B11]; mp. 170.6°C	Co. No. 30; Ex. [B11]; mp. 192°C
	
.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (2:5); Co. No. 31; Ex. [B11]; mp. 140°C	.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (2:5) .H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 32; Ex. [B11]; mp. 122°C

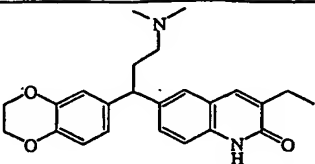
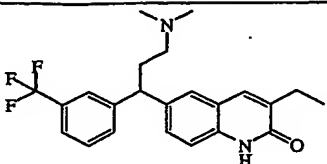
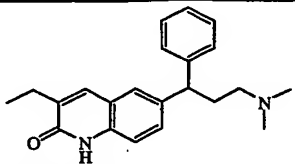
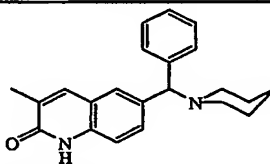
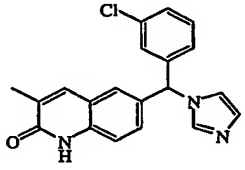
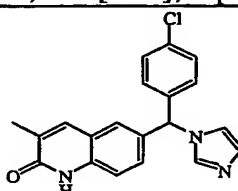
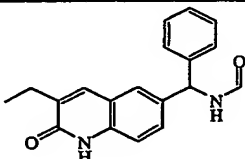
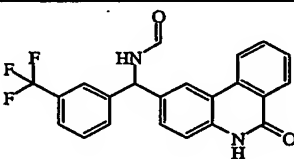
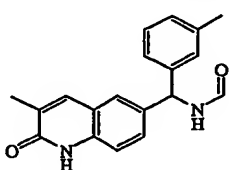
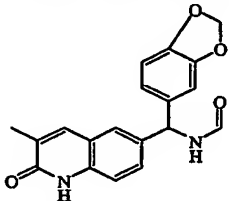
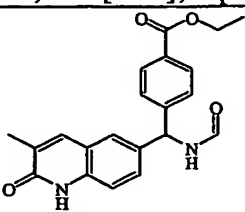
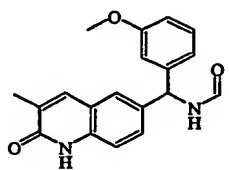
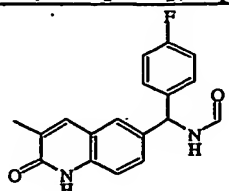
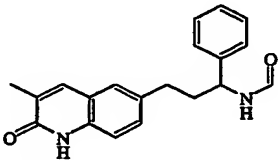
	
Co. No. 33; Ex. [B11]; mp. 108°C	Co. No. 34; Ex. [B11]; mp. 142°C
	
Co. No. 35; Ex. [B11]; mp. 110°C	.H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 36; Ex. [B11]; mp. 88°C
	
Co. No. 37; Ex. [B11]; mp. 182°C	Co. No. 38; Ex. [B11]
	
Co. No. 39; Ex. [B11]	. C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:3); Co. No. 40; Ex. [B11]; mp. 130°C
	
.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (2:3); Co. No. 41; Ex. [B11]; mp. 125°C	.H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 42; Ex. [B11]; mp. 158°C

	
<p>.C₂H₂O₄ (2:5).H₂O (1:1); Co. No. 43; Ex. [B11]; mp. 138°C</p>	<p>Co. No. 44; Ex. [B11]; mp. 104°C</p>
	
<p>Co. No. 45; Ex. [B11]; mp. 240°C</p>	<p>Co. No. 46; Ex. [B11]; mp. 180°C</p>
	
<p>Co. No. 47; Ex. [B11]; mp. 200°C</p>	<p>Co. No. 48; Ex. [B11]; mp. 188°C</p>
	
<p>.C₂H₂O₄ (1:2); Co. No. 49; Ex. [B11]; mp. 120°C</p>	
	
<p>.C₂H₂O₄ (2:5) .H₂O (1:1); Co. No. 50; Ex. [B11]; mp. 130°C</p>	<p>.C₂H₂O₄ (2:5) .H₂O (1:1); Co. No. 51; Ex. [B11]; mp. 114°C</p>

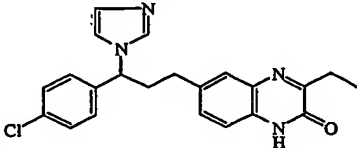
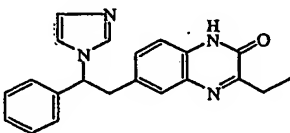
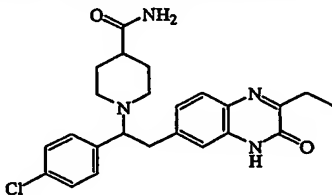
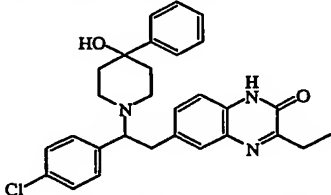
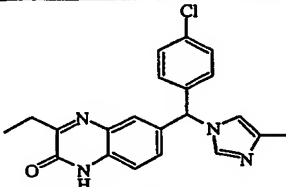
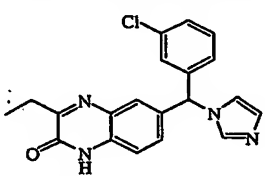
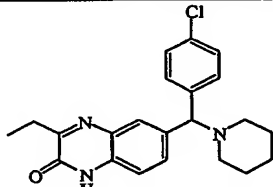
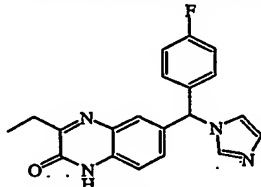
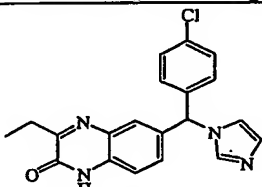
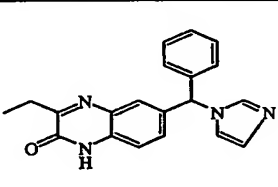
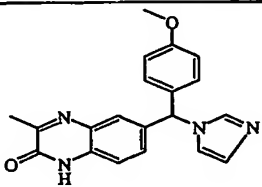
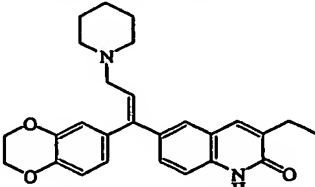
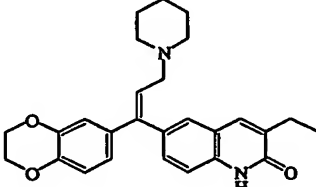
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Co. No. 54; Ex. [B11]; mp. 157°C	.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (2:3); Co. No. 55; Ex. [B11]; mp. 134°C
.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:2) .H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 56; Ex. [B11]; mp. 130°C	.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:2) .H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 57; Ex. [B11]; mp. 132°C
.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:2) .H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 58; Ex. [B11]; mp. 150°C	Co. No. 59; Ex. [B11]; mp. 172°C
Co. No. 60; Ex. [B11]; mp. 122°C	.H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 61; Ex. [B11]; mp. 122°C
Co. No. 62; Ex. [B11]; mp. 156°C	Co. No. 63; Ex. [B11]; mp. 148°C

	
.H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 64; Ex. [B11]; mp. 100°C	.H ₂ O (1:1); Co. No. 65; Ex. [B11]; mp. 110°C
	
Co. No. 66; Ex. [B11]; mp. 110°C	Co. No. 67; Ex. [B11]; mp. 138°C
	
Co. No. 68; Ex. [B11]; mp. 96°C	Co. No. 69; Ex. [B11]; mp. 108°C
	
Co. No. 70; Ex. [B11]; mp. 112°C	Co. No. 71; Ex. [B11]; mp. 144°C
	
Co. No. 72; Ex. [B11]; mp. >260°C	Co. No. 73; Ex. [B11]; mp. 114°C
	
Co. No. 74; Ex. [B11]; mp. 102°C	Co. No. 75; Ex. [B11]; mp. 126°C

Co. No. 76; Ex. [B11]; mp. 118°C	Co. No. 77; Ex. [B11]
Co. No. 78; Ex. [B11]; mp. 165°C	.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:1); Co. No. 79; Ex. [B11]; mp. 105°C
Co. No. 80; Ex. [B11]; mp. 157°C	Co. No. 81; Ex. [B11]
Co. No. 82; Ex. [B11]; mp. 144°C	Co. No. 83; Ex. [B11]; mp. 172°C
Co. No. 84; Ex. [B11]; mp. 189°C	Co. No. 85; Ex. [B12]; mp. 178°C
Co. No. 86; Ex. [B13]	Co. No. 87; Ex. [B13]; mp. 174-178°C.
Co. No. 88; Ex. [B15]	Co. No. 89; Ex. [B15]

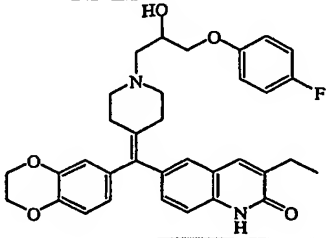
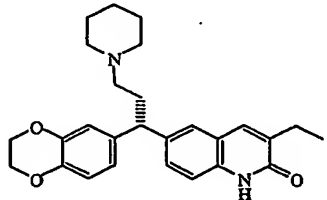
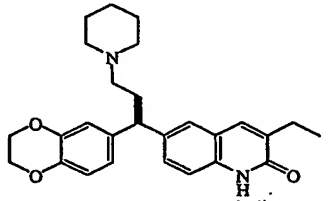
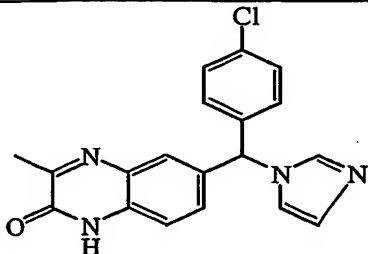
	
Co. No. 90; Ex. [B15]; mp. 150°C	.C ₂ H ₂ O ₄ (1:1); Co. No. 91; Ex. [B15]; mp. 197°C
	
Co. No. 92; Ex. [B15]; mp. 136°C	Co. No. 93; Ex. [B16]; mp. 206.5°C
	
Co. No. 94; Ex. [B16]; mp. 221.9°C	Co. No. 95; Ex. [B16]; mp. 215.1°C
	
Co. No. 96; Ex. [B17]; mp. >260°C	Co. No. 97 Ex. [B17]; mp. >260°C
	
Co. No. 98; Ex. [B17]; mp. 258.6°C	Co. No. 99; Ex. [B17]; mp. 267.5°C
	
Co. No. 100; Ex. [B17]; mp. 221.6°C	Co. No. 101; Ex. [B17]; mp. 223.6°C
	
Co. No. 102; Ex. [B17]; mp. 257.9°C	Co. No. 103; Ex. [B17]; mp. 217°C

Co. No. 104; Ex. [B17]; mp. 258°C	Co. No. 105; Ex. [B17]; mp. 259.7°C
Co. No. 106; Ex. [B17]; mp. 268.7°C	Co. No. 107; Ex. [B18]; mp. 226.8°C
Co. No. 108; Ex. [B18]; mp. 194°C	Co. No. 109; Ex. [B18]; mp. 242.2°C
Co. No. 110; Ex. [B18]; mp. 235.7°C	Co. No. 111; Ex. [B18]; mp. 240.1°C
Co. No. 112; Ex. [B18]; mp. 233.1°C	Co. No. 113; Ex. [B19]; mp. 236°C
Co. No. 114; Ex. [B19]; mp. 192°C	Co. No. 115; Ex. [B19]; mp. 255.4°C
Co. No. 116; Ex. [B20]; mp. 201°C	Co. No. 117; Ex. [B20]; mp. 216°C

	
Co. No. 118; Ex. [B20]; mp. 102°C	Co. No. 119; Ex. [B20]; mp. 224°C
	
Co. No. 120; Ex. [B20]	Co. No. 121; Ex. [B20]
	
Co. No. 122; Ex. [B21]; mp. 260°C	Co. No. 123; Ex. [B21]; mp. 251°C
	
Co. No. 124; Ex. [B21]; mp. 212°C	Co. No. 125; Ex. [B21]; mp. 247.7°C
	
Co. No. 126; Ex. [B21]; mp. 203.8°C	Co. No. 127; EP0371564; mp. 262°C
	
Co. No. 128; EP0371564	
	
(Z); Co. No. 129; Ex. [B22]; mp. 252°C	(E); Co. No. 130; Ex. [B22]; mp. 170°C

Co. No. 131; Ex. [B23]; mp. 249°C	Co. No. 132; Ex. [B24]; mp. 203°C
Co. No. 133; Ex. [B25]; mp. 219°C	Co. No. 134; Ex. [B22], mp. 205°C
Co. No. 135; Ex. [B22]; mp. >250°C	Co. No. 136; Ex. [B22]; mp. 187°C
(E); Co. No. 137; Ex. [B22]; mp. 214°C	(Z); Co. No. 138; Ex. [B22]; mp. 180°C
(E); Co. No. 139; Ex. [B22]; mp. 173°C	(Z); Co. No. 140; Ex. [B22]; mp. 170°C
Co. No. 141; Ex. [B24]; mp. 118°C	(E); Co. No. 142; Ex. [B24]; mp. 190°C

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Co. No. 143; Ex. [B25]; mp. 200°C	enantiomer A; Co. No. 144; Ex. [B25]; mp. 159°C
	
enantiomer B; Co. No. 145; Ex. [B25]; mp. 172°C	Co. No. 146; EP371564

Pharmacological exampleIn vitro Scintillation Proximity Assay (SPA) for PARP-1 inhibitory activity

5 Compounds of the present invention were tested in an *in vitro* assay based on SPA technology (proprietary to Amersham Pharmacia Biotech).

In principle, the assay relies upon the well established SPA technology for the detection of poly(ADP-ribosyl)ation of biotinylated target proteins, i.e histones. This ribosylation is induced using nicked DNA activated PARP-1 enzyme and [³H]-
10 nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide ([³H]-NAD⁺) as ADP-ribosyl donor.

As inducer of PARP-1 enzyme activity, nicked DNA was prepared. For this, 25 mg of DNA (supplier: Sigma) was dissolved in 25 ml DNase buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4; 0.5 mg/ml Bovine Serum Albumine (BSA); 5 mM MgCl₂.6H₂O and 1 mM KCl) to
15 which 50 µl DNase solution (1mg/ml in 0.15 M NaCl) was added. After an incubation of 90 min. at 37 °C, the reaction was terminated by adding 1.45 g NaCl, followed by a further incubation at 58 °C for 15 min. The reaction mixture was cooled on ice and dialysed at 4 °C for respectively 1.5 and 2 hours against 1.5 l of 0.2 M KCl, and twice against 1.5 l of 0.01 M KCl for 1.5 and 2 h respectively. The mixture was aliquoted
20 and stored at -20 °C. Histones (1 mg/ml, type II-A, supplier: Sigma) were biotinylated using the biotinylation kit of Amersham and stored aliquoted at -20 °C. A stock solution of 100 mg/ml SPA poly(vinyl toluene) (PVT) beads (supplier: Amersham) was made in PBS. A stock solution of [³H]-NAD⁺ was made by adding 120 µl of [³H]-NAD⁺ (0.1 mCi/ml, supplier: NEN) to 6 ml incubation buffer (50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8;
25 0.2 mM DTT; 4 mM MgCl₂). A solution of 4 mM NAD⁺ (supplier: Roche) was made in incubation buffer (from a 100 mM stock solution in water stored at -20 °C). The PARP-1 enzyme was produced using art known techniques, i.e. cloning and expression of the protein starting from human liver cDNA. Information concerning the used protein sequence of the PARP-1 enzyme including literature references can be found in
30 the Swiss-Prot database under primary accession number P09874. Biotinylated histones and PVT-SPA beads were mixed and pre-incubated for 30 min. at room temperature. PARP-1 enzyme (concentration was lot dependent) was mixed with the nicked DNA and the mixture was pre-incubated for 30 min. at 4 °C. Equal parts of this histones/PVT-SPA beads solution and PARP-1 enzyme/DNA solution were mixed and
35 75 µl of this mixture together with 1 µl of compound in DMSO and 25 µl of [³H]-NAD⁺ was added per well into a 96-well microtiterplate. The final concentrations in the incubation mixture were 2 µg/ml for the biotinylated histones, 2 mg/ml for the PVT-SPA beads, 2 µg/ml for the nicked DNA and between 5 – 10 µg/ml for the PARP-1

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enzyme. After incubation of the mixture for 15 min. at room temperature, the reaction was terminated by adding 100 μ l of 4 mM NAD^+ in incubation buffer (final concentration 2 mM) and plates were mixed.

The beads were allowed to sediment for at least 15 min. and plates transferred to a
5 TopCountNXTTM (Packard) for scintillation counting, values were expressed as counts per minute (cpm). For each experiment, controls (containing PARP-1 enzyme and DMSO without compound), a blank incubation (containing DMSO but no PARP-1 enzyme or compound) and samples (containing PARP-1 enzyme and compound dissolved in DMSO) were run in parallel. All compounds tested were dissolved and
10 eventually further diluted in DMSO. In first instance, compounds were tested at a concentration of 10^{-5} M or 10^{-6} M. When the compounds showed activity at 10^{-5} M or 10^{-6} M, a dose-response curve was made wherein the compounds were tested at concentrations between 10^{-5} M and 10^{-8} M. In each test, the blank value was subtracted from both the control and the sample values. The control sample represented maximal
15 PARP-1 enzyme activity. For each sample, the amount of cpm was expressed as a percentage of the mean cpm value of the controls. When appropriate, IC_{50} -values (concentration of the drug, needed to reduce the PARP-1 enzyme activity to 50% of the control) were computed using linear interpolation between the experimental points just above and below the 50 % level. Herein the effects of test compounds are expressed as
20 pIC_{50} (the negative log value of the IC_{50} -value). As a reference compound, 4-amino-1,8-naphthalimide was included to validate the SPA assay. The compounds of the invention showed inhibitory activity at the initial test concentration of 10^{-5} M or 10^{-6} M (see Tabel-2).

25 In vitro filtration assay for PARP-1 inhibitory activity

Compounds of the present invention were tested in an *in vitro* filtration assay assessing PARP-1 activity (triggered in the presence of nicked DNA) by means of its histone poly (ADP-ribosyl)ation activity using [^{32}P]-NAD as ADP-ribosyl donor. The
30 radioactive ribosylated histones were precipitated by trichloroacetic acid (TCA) in 96-well filterplates and the incorporated [^{32}P] measured using a scintillation counter

A mixture of histones (stock solution: 5 mg/ml in H_2O), NAD^+ (stock solution: 100 mM in H_2O), and [^{32}P]-NAD⁺ in incubation buffer (50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8; 0.2 mM
35 DTT; 4 mM MgCl_2) was made. A mixture of the PARP-1 enzyme (5 – 10 μ g/ml) and nicked DNA was also made. The nicked DNA was prepared as described in the *in vitro* SPA for PARP-1 inhibitory activity. Seventy-five μ l of the PARP-1 enzyme/DNA mixture together with 1 μ l of compound in DMSO and 25 μ l of histones-NAD⁺/[^{32}P]-

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NAD⁺ mixture was added per well of a 96-well filterplate (0.45 μ m, supplier Millipore). The final concentrations in the incubation mixture were 2 μ g/ml for the histones, 0.1 mM for the NAD⁺, 200 μ M (0.5 μ C) for the [³²P]-NAD⁺ and 2 μ g/ml for the nicked DNA. Plates were incubated for 15 min. at room temperature and the
5 reaction was terminated by the addition of 10 μ l ice cold 100% TCA followed by the addition of 10 μ l ice-cold BSA solution (1 % in H₂O). The protein fraction was allowed to precipitate for 10 min. at 4 °C and plates were vacuum filtered. The plates were subsequently washed with, for each well, 1 ml of 10 % ice cold TCA, 1 ml of 5 % ice cold TCA and 1 ml of 5 % TCA at room temperature. Finally 100 μ l of scintillation
10 solution (Microscint 40, Packard) was added to each well and the plates were transferred to a TopCountNXT™ (supplier: Packard) for scintillation counting and values were expressed as counts per minute (cpm). For each experiment, controls (containing PARP-1 enzyme and DMSO without compound), a blank incubation (containing DMSO but no PARP-1 enzyme or compound) and samples (containing
15 PARP-1 enzyme and compound dissolved in DMSO) were run in parallel. All compounds tested were dissolved and eventually further diluted in DMSO. In first instance, compounds were tested at a concentration of 10⁻⁵M. When the compounds showed activity at 10⁻⁵M, a dose-response curve was made wherein the compounds were tested at concentrations between 10⁻⁵M and 10⁻⁸M. In each test, the blank value
20 was subtracted from both the control and the sample values. The control sample represented maximal PARP-1 enzyme activity. For each sample, the amount of cpm was expressed as a percentage of the mean cpm value of the controls. When appropriate, IC₅₀-values (concentration of the drug, needed to reduce the PARP-1 enzyme activity to 50% of the control) were computed using linear interpolation
25 between the experimental points just above and below the 50 % level. Herein the effects of test compounds are expressed as pIC₅₀ (the negative log value of the IC₅₀-value). As a reference compound, 4-amino-1,8-naphthalimide was included to validate the filtration assay. The tested compounds showed inhibitory activity at the initial test concentration of 10⁻⁵M (see Tabel-2).

30

Tabel-2

Co.No.	In vitro SPA	In vitro filtration assay
	pIC50	pIC50
1	6.545	5.632
2	6.134	
3	6.39	5.363
4	6.362	5.574
5	5.855	5.025
6	6.019	5.404
7	5.845	5.135
8	6.671	5.596
9	5.744	5.027
10	6.148	5.621
11	8.137	
12	7.397	
13	6.657	5.675
14	7.013	
15	6.926	
16	8.036	
17	6.817	6.208
18	7.711	
19	6.591	
20	6.561	5.757
21	6.718	
22	6.436	5.393
23	5.85	5.485
24	5.565	5.12
25	6.303	5.409
26	6.925	6.037
27	6.034	5.633
28	6.645	6.112
29	6.099	5.321
30	6.441	5.744
31	7.672	
32	7.127	
33	7.59	
34	6.28	
35	6.096	
36	6.525	
37	6.52	5.932
38	6.5	5.576
39	6.225	5
40	7.625	
41	6.912	
42	6.023	
43	7.673	
44	7.035	

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Co.No.	In vitro SPA	In vitro filtration assay
	pIC50	pIC50
45	7.341	
46	6.393	
47	6.287	
48	6.722	
49	6.391	
50	6.169	
51	6.338	
52	7.263	
53	6.819	
54	6.995	
55	7.735	
56	6.292	
57	7.474	
58	6.235	
59	6.663	
60	6.529	
61	6.559	
62	6.506	
63	6.442	
64	6.274	
65	6.535	
66	6.38	
67	6.681	
68	6.428	
69	6.341	
70	6.118	
71	6.751	
72	6.676	5.677
73	6.908	
74	6.675	
75	6.47	
76	6.386	
77	6.598	5.759
78	6.706	5.626
80	6.16	5.408
81	6.515	5.401
82	6.448	
83	6.303	
84	6.497	
85	6.723	5.925
86	6.535	5.65
87	6.23	5.305
88	6.579	5.39
89	6.346	5.572
90	8.074	
91	6.728	6.082

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Co.No.	In vitro SPA	In vitro filtration assay
	pIC50	pIC50
92	6.977	5.929
93	6.294	5.667
94	6.177	5.448
95	6.087	5.197
96	7.156	6.453
97	7.508	
98	6.562	5.417
99	6.539	5.833
100	6.299	5.455
101	6.112	5.546
102	6.437	5.799
103	6.045	5.112
104	6.3	5.624
105	6.209	5.833
106	6.307	5.775
107	6.075	5
108	6.391	
109	6.122	5.634
110	6.557	5.588
111	6.214	5.354
112	6.162	5.567
113	6.255	5.227
114	6.258	5.802
115	6.087	5.463
116	6.249	
117	6.149	
118	6.061	
119	6.704	
120	6.257	
121	6.081	
122	6.057	5.569
123	6.213	5.481
124	5.803	5.86
125	6.148	5.251
126	6.242	5.648
127	5.954	5.436
128	6.442	5.638
129	7.243	
130	6.725	
131	7.558	
132	7.243	
133	6.906	
134	6.525	5.806
135	6.1	5.379
136	6.864	
137	6.369	

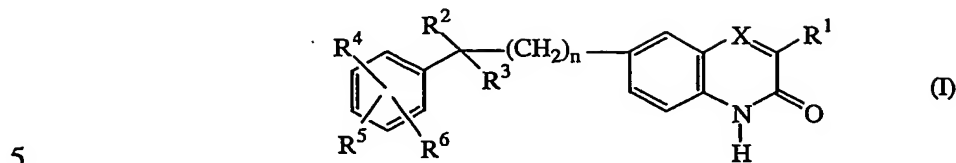
-82-

Co.No.	In vitro SPA	In vitro filtration assay
	pIC50	pIC50
138	7.201	
139	6.175	5.385
140	6.366	5.667
141	6.917	
142	6.492	
143	6.804	

The compounds can be further evaluated in a cellular chemo- and/or radiosensitization assay, an assay measuring inhibition of endogenous PARP-1 activity in cancer cell lines and eventually in an *in vivo* radiosensitization test.

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I),



the *N*-oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

10 n is 0, 1 or 2;

X is N or CR^7 , wherein R^7 is hydrogen or taken together with R^1 may form a bivalent radical of formula $-CH=CH-CH=CH-$;

15 R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl or thiophenyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl or taken together with R^3 may form $=O$;

R^3 is a radical selected from

- 20
- $-(CH_2)_s-NR^8R^9$ (a-1),
 - $-O-H$ (a-2),
 - $-O-R^{10}$ (a-3),
 - $-S-R^{11}$ (a-4), or
 - $-C\equiv N$ (a-5),

25 wherein

s is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^8 , R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from $-CHO$, C_{1-6} alkyl,

hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino,

di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl,

30 piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, and

35 R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

or R^3 is a group of formula

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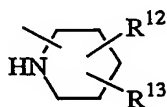


wherein

t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

-Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from

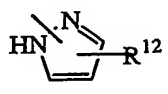
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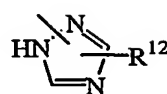
(c-1)



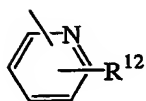
(c-2)



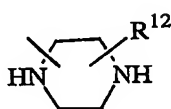
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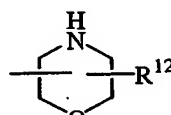
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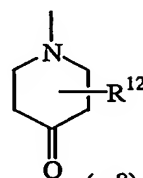
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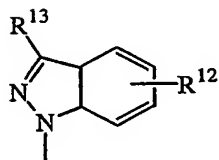
(c-6)



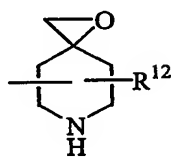
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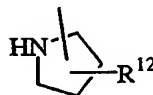
(c-8)



(c-9)

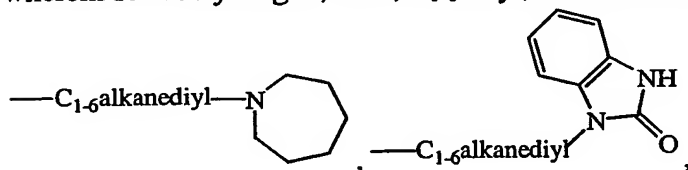


(c-10)



(c-11)

10

wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, aminocarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, aryl, C_{1-6} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino,

15

aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(phenyl C_{2-6} alkenyl), piperidiny, piperidiny C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolyl,aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino, morpholino, C_{1-6} alkylimidazolyl,pyridiny C_{1-6} alkylamino; and R^{13} is hydrogen, piperidiny or aryl;

20

 R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl,trihalomethoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, amino, amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino,di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, or C_{1-6} alkyl substitutedwith 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, or

25

amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy; or

when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula

- 5
- O-CH₂-O (d-1),
-O-(CH₂)₂-O- (d-2),
-CH=CH-CH=CH- (d-3), or
-NH-C(O)-NR¹⁴=CH- (d-4),

wherein R¹⁴ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halo, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxy;

10

with the proviso that when

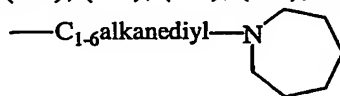
n is 0, X is N, R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl, R² is hydrogen, R³ is a group of formula (b-1), t is 0, -Z is the heterocyclic ring system (c-2) wherein said heterocyclic ring system -Z is attached to the rest of the molecule with a nitrogen atom, and R¹² is hydrogen or


15 C₁₋₆alkyl; then

at least one of the substituents R^4 , R^5 or R^6 is other than hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyloxy and trihalomethyl.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein

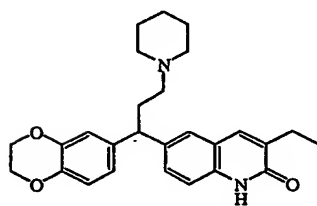
20 R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl; R³ is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-2), (a-3) or (a-5) or is a group of formula (b-1); s is 0, 1 or 2; R⁸ and R¹⁰ are each independently selected from
-CHO, C₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl,
C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylaminoC₁₋₆alkyl, piperidinyC₁₋₆alkyl,
piperidinyC₁₋₆alkylaminocarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, thiophenylC₁₋₆alkyl,
25 pyrrollyC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkylpiperidiny, arylcarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl,
arylcarbonylpiperidinyC₁₋₆alkyl, haloindozolyC₁₋₆alkyl, or
arylC₁₋₆alkyl(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl; t is 0 or 2; -Z is a heterocyclic ring system
selected from (c-1), (c-2), (c-4), (c-6), (c-8), (c-9), or (c-11); R¹² is hydrogen,



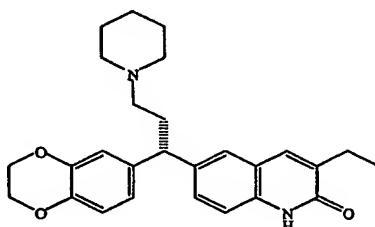
C₁₋₆alkyl, aminocarbonyl, , C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkylamino, di(phenylC₂₋₆alkenyl), piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkyl, haloindazolyl, or arylC₂₋₆alkenyl; R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyloxy or C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl; and when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula (d-1) or (d-2).

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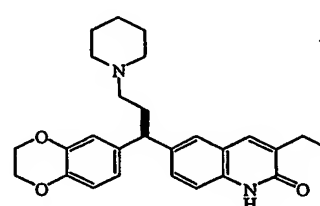
3. A compound according to claim 1 and 2 wherein
 n is 0; X is CH; R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl; R² is hydrogen; R³ is a group of formula
 (b-1); t is 2; -Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from (c-1); R¹² is hydrogen;
 R¹³ is hydrogen; and R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions and taken together form a
 5 bivalent radical of formula (d-2).
4. A compound according to claim 1, 2 and 3 wherein the compound is
 compounds No 16, compound No 144, and compound No. 145.



compound 16



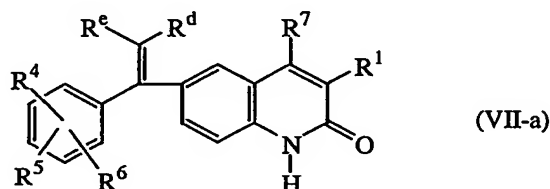
Compound 144



Compound 145

10

5. A compound of formula (VII-a),



(VII-a)

15

the *N*-oxide forms, the addition salts and the stereo-chemically isomeric forms thereof,
 wherein

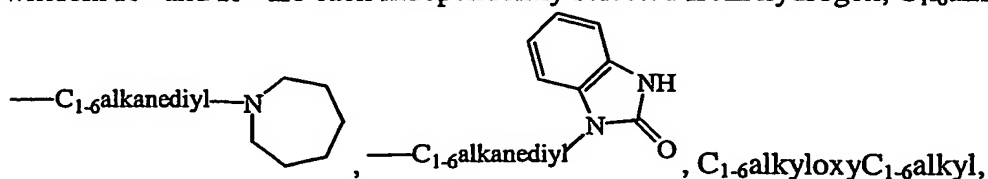
- 20 R¹, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and aryl are as defined in claim 1;

R^e is hydrogen or taken together with R^d may form a bivalent radical of formula

-(CH₂)₂-NR¹⁵-(CH₂)₂- (e-1), or

-CH₂-NR¹⁶-(CH₂)₃- (e-2),

- 25 wherein R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl,



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piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy)C₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, or arylC₂₋₆alkenyl; or

R^d is di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl or piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl.

5

6. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5 for use as a medicine.

10

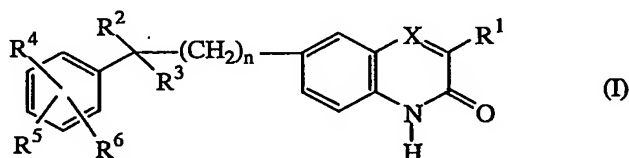
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1 to 5.

15

8. A process of preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and a compound as claimed in claim 1 to 5 are intimately mixed.

9. Use of a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a PARP mediated disorder, wherein said compound is a compound of formula (I)

20



the *N*-oxide forms, the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts and the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

25

n is 0, 1 or 2;

X is N or CR⁷, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or taken together with R¹ may form a bivalent radical of formula -CH=CH-CH=CH-;

30

R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl or thiophenyl;

R² is hydrogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆alkynyl or taken together with R³ may form =O;

R³ is a radical selected from

35

-(CH₂)₅-NR⁸R⁹ (a-1),

-O-H (a-2),

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wherein

5 s is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^8 , R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from $-CHO$, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

10 piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, and

R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

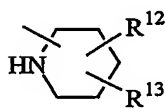
15 or R^3 is a group of formula

wherein

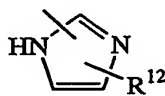
t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

-Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from

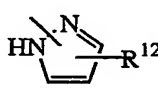
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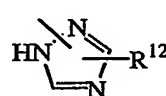
(c-1)



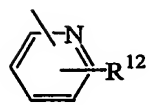
(c-2)



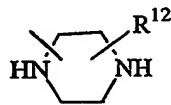
(c-3)



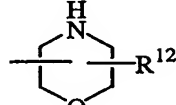
(c-4)



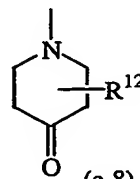
(c-5)



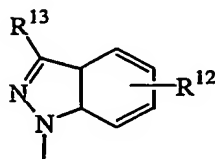
(c-6)



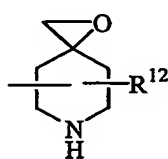
(c-7)



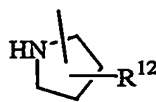
(c-8)



(c-9)



(c-10)

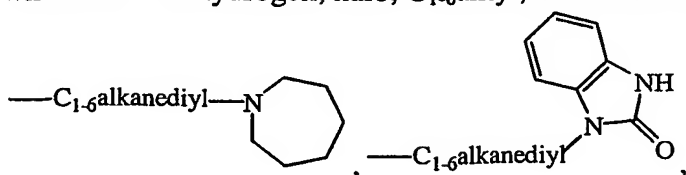


(c-11)

25

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wherein R¹² is hydrogen, halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, aminocarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, aryl,



- C₁₋₆alkylaminoC₁₋₆alkyloxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkylamino, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, di(phenylC₂₋₆alkenyl), piperidinyl, piperidinylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy)C₁₋₆alkyl, haloindazolyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₂₋₆alkenyl, arylC₁₋₆alkylamino, morpholino, C₁₋₆alkylimidazolyl, pyridinylC₁₋₆alkylamino; and R¹³ is hydrogen, piperidinyl or aryl;

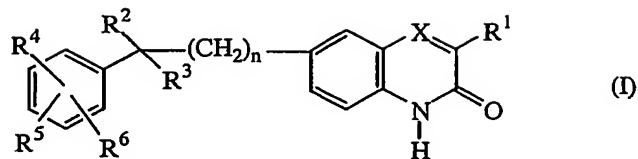
- 10 R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, amino, aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyloxy or C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, or C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, or aminoC₁₋₆alkyloxy; or
- 15 when R⁵ and R⁶ are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula
- O-CH₂-O (d-1),
- O-(CH₂)₂-O- (d-2),
- CH=CH-CH=CH- (d-3), or
- 20 -NH-C(O)-NR¹⁴=CH- (d-4),

wherein R¹⁴ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halo, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxy.

- 25 10. Use of a compound according to claim 5 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a PARP mediated disorder.
11. Use according to claim 9 and 10 wherein the treatment involves chemosensitization.
- 30 12. Use according to claims 9 and 10 wherein the treatment involves radiosensitization.
13. A combination of a compound with a chemotherapeutic agent wherein said compound is a compound of formula (I)

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the *N*-oxide forms, the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts and the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

5

n is 0, 1 or 2;

X is N or CR^7 , wherein R^7 is hydrogen or taken together with R^1 may form a bivalent radical of formula $-CH=CH-CH=CH-$;

10

R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl or thiophenyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl or taken together with R^3 may form $=O$;

15 R^3 is a radical selected from

$-(CH_2)_s-NR^8R^9$ (a-1),

$-O-H$ (a-2),

$-O-R^{10}$ (a-3),

$-S-R^{11}$ (a-4), or

20 $-C\equiv N$ (a-5),

wherein

s is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^8 , R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from $-CHO$, C_{1-6} alkyl,

hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino,

25 di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkyl,

piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, piperidinyl, piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

piperidinyl C_{1-6} alkylaminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, thiophenyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

pyrrolyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylpiperidinyl, arylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

arylcarbonylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolylpiperidinyl C_{1-6} alkyl,

30 aryl C_{1-6} alkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, and

R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

or R^3 is a group of formula

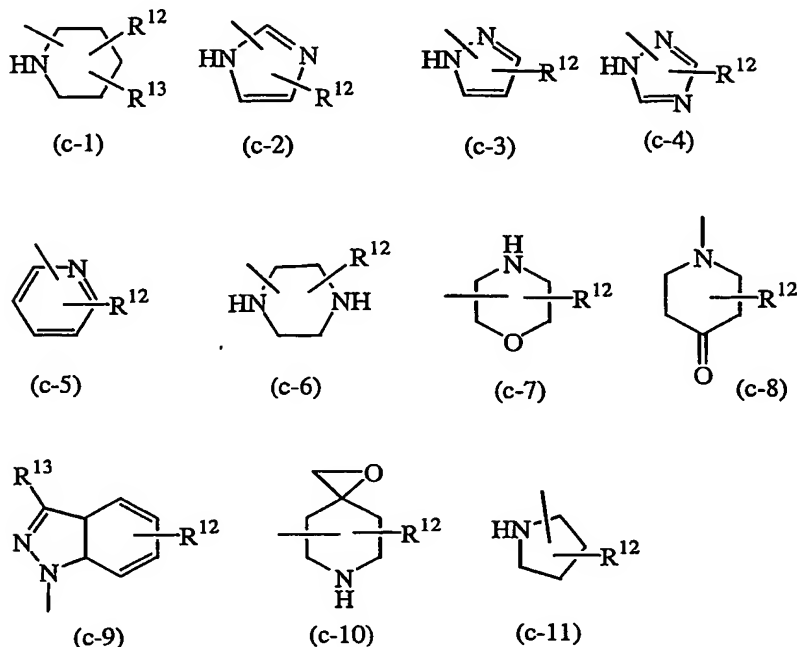
$-(CH_2)_t-Z$ (b-1),

wherein

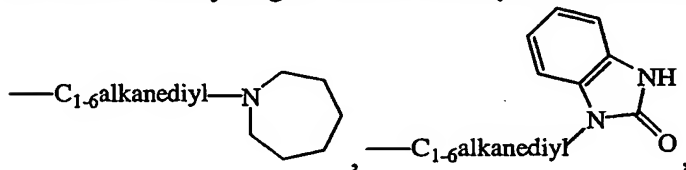
35 t is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

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-Z is a heterocyclic ring system selected from



10 wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, aminocarbonyl, amino, hydroxy, aryl,



15 C_{1-6} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkylamino, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(phenyl C_{2-6} alkenyl), piperidiny, piperidiny C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, haloindazolyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{2-6} alkenyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino, morpholino, C_{1-6} alkylimidazolyl, pyridiny C_{1-6} alkylamino; and R^{13} is hydrogen, piperidiny or aryl;

20 R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, amino, amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, or C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, or amino C_{1-6} alkyloxy; or when R^5 and R^6 are on adjacent positions they may taken together form a bivalent radical of formula

25

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- O-CH₂-O (d-1),
 -O-(CH₂)₂-O- (d-2),
 -CH=CH-CH=CH- (d-3), or
 -NH-C(O)-NR¹⁴=CH- (d-4),

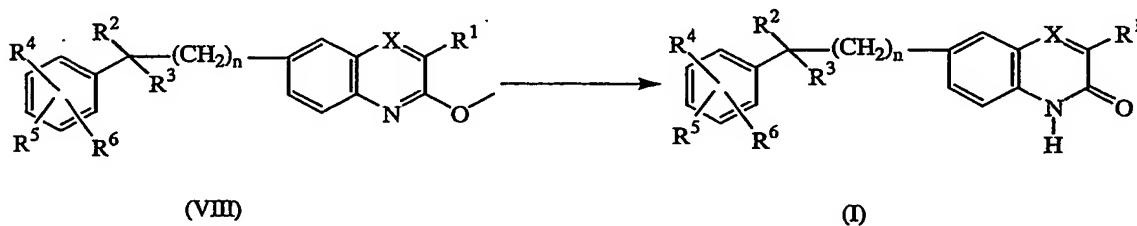
5 wherein R¹⁴ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halo, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxy.

10 14. A combination of a compound according to claim 5 with a chemotherapeutic agent.

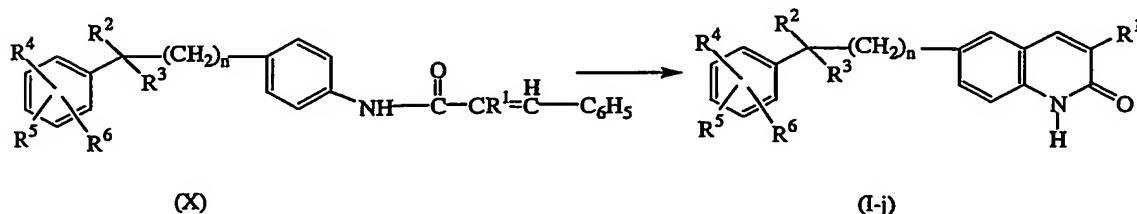
15 15. A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 5, characterized by

a) the hydrolysis of intermediates of formula (VIII), according to art-known methods,
 by submitting the intermediates of formula (VIII) to appropriate reagents, such as,
 tinchloride, acetic acid and hydrochloric acid, in the presence of a reaction inert
 solvent, e.g. tetrahydrofuran,



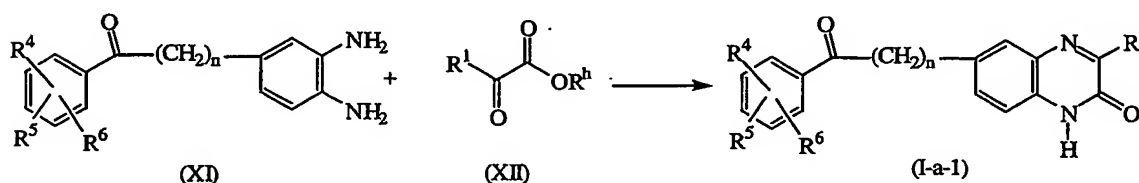
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b) the cyclization of intermediates of formula (X), according to art-known cyclizing
 procedures into compounds of formula (I) wherein X is CH herein referred to as
 compounds of formula (I-j), preferably in the presence of a suitable Lewis Acid,
 e.g. aluminum chloride either neat or in a suitable solvent such as, for example, an
 aromatic hydrocarbon, e.g. benzene, chlorobenzene, methylbenzene and the like;
 halogenated hydrocarbons, e.g. trichloromethane, tetrachloromethane and the like;
 an ether, e.g. tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane and the like or mixtures of such solvents,



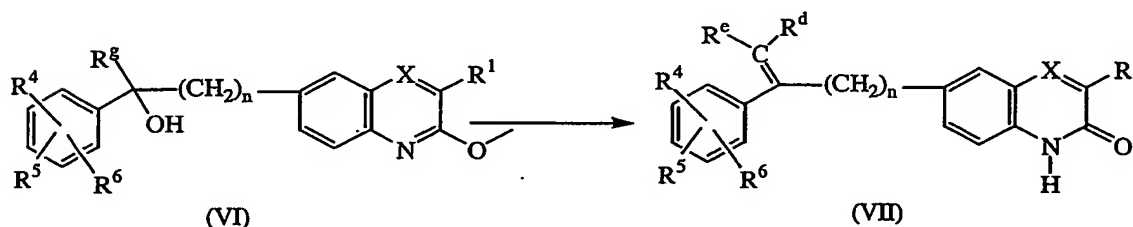
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- c) the condensation of an appropriate ortho-benzenediamine of formula (XI) with an ester of formula (XII) into compounds of formula (I), wherein X is N and R² taken together with R³ forms =O, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-a-1), in the presence of a carboxylic acid, e.g. acetic acid and the like, a mineral acid such as, for example hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, or a sulfonic acid such as, for example, methanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 4-methylbenzenesulfonic acid and the like,



10

- d) hydrolysing intermediates of formula (VI), wherein R³ is a group of formula (b-1) or a radical of formula (a-1) wherein s is other than 0, herein referred to as R^g, according to art-known methods, such as stirring the intermediate (VI) in an aqueous acid solution in the presence of a reaction inert solvent with the formation of intermediates and compounds of formula (VII), wherein R^d and R^e are appropriate radicals or taken together with the carbon to which they are attached, form an appropriate heterocyclic ring system as defined in -Z,

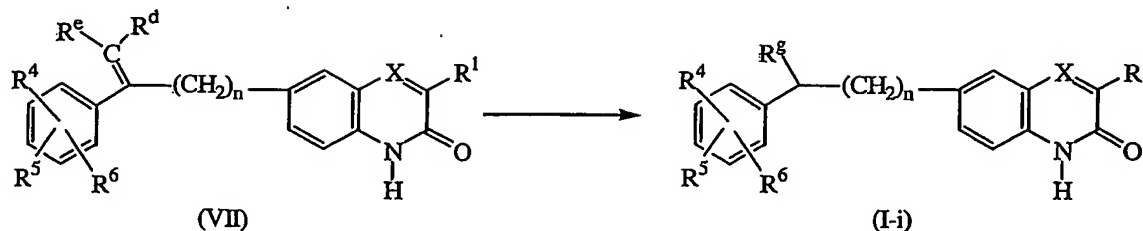


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- e) converting intermediates of formula (VII), by a selective hydrogenation of said intermediate with an appropriate reducing agent and an appropriate reductant in a suitable solvent with the formation of compounds of formula (I) wherein R² is hydrogen and R^g is as defined above, herein referred to as compounds of formula (I-i).

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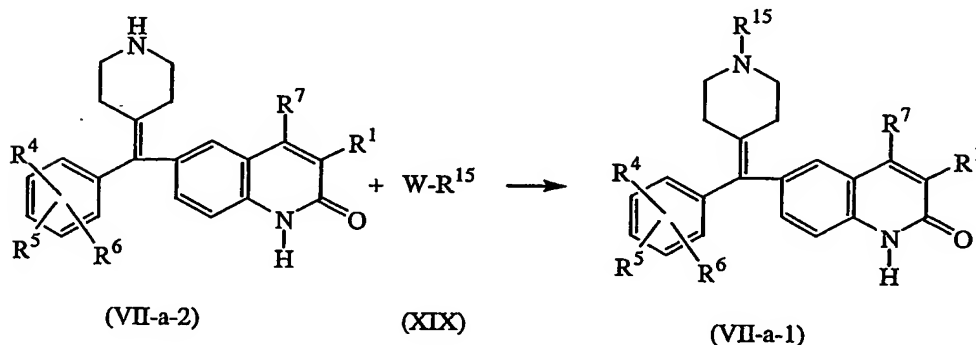
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16. A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 5, characterized by

- 5 a) reacting a compound of formula (VII-a), wherein R^e taken together with R^d forms a bivalent radical of formula (e-1) or (e-2) (e.g. a bivalent radical of formula (e-1)) and R^{15} or R^{16} (e.g. R^{15}) are hydrogen, herein referred to as compounds of formula (VII-a-2), with an intermediate of formula (XIX) wherein W is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, chloro, bromo, methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy and R^{15} or R^{16} (e.g. R^{15}) are other than hydrogen, with the
- 10 formation of compounds of formula (VII-a-1), defined as compounds of formula (VII-a), wherein R^e taken together with R^d forms a bivalent radical of formula (e-1) or (e-2) (e.g. a bivalent radical of formula (e-1)) and R^{15} or R^{16} (e.g. R^{15}) are other than hydrogen, in a reaction-inert solvent; or

15



- b) reacting a compound of formula (VII-a-2) with an intermediate of formula (XX) wherein R is an appropriate substituent with the formation of compounds of formula (VII-a) wherein R^{15} or R^{16} (e.g. R^{15}) are aryloxy(hydroxy) C_{1-6} alkyl, herein referred to as compounds of formula (VII-a-3), in the presence of 2-propanol.
- 20

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